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MK NEWS

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It's emotional! Your pictures with Olly

SEE **PAGE 16**

All the Dons news after AFC cup win

SEE **PAGE 3** & **SPORT**

Up up and away for kids' values

HUNDREDS of balloons were sent soaring into the winter skies over Milton Keynes by primary school children last week.

The blue balloons were released by pupils at Germander Park School in Conniburrow as part of a new learning initiative that will teach them about values.

The school has selected 11 core values, such as responsibility, love, friendship and learning, and will teach one of these per month during this academic year.

On Thursday the children chose their favourite core value, and drew a picture or wrote a message about it and then attached them to the balloons before the big release.

If you found one of the balloons, e-mail editor@mk-news.co.uk

Legal challenge over turbine 'buffer zone'

BY ANNA MAUREMOOTOO
anna.mauremootoo@mk-news.co.uk

A LEGAL challenge is being launched against an attempt by Milton Keynes Council to set a 1000-metre buffer zone between homes and wind turbines.

In July the council's decision-making cabinet adopted a Supplementary Planning Document which proposed extending the distance between turbines and the nearest dwellings from 350 metres to a kilometre.

RWE Npower Renewables warned that this could leave the authority open to a legal challenge and last week the High Court granted them permission to proceed with its claim for a Judicial Review which could cost taxpayers thousands of pounds.

Wayne Cranstone, RWE's onshore development and projects director, said: "If councils can introduce flawed and onerous planning policies without proper scrutiny then this is likely to have a detrimental affect on the UK onshore wind industry.

"It is crucial we obtain clarity on this matter. It is very difficult for the industry to operate successfully when so much uncertainty prevails."

But the council is standing firmly behind its policy. Council leader Andrew Geary said: "We owe it to the citizens of Milton Keynes to defend this policy. We have had a huge reaction from residents and most support this planning document.

"It is dreadful that this could cost the taxpayer."

If RWE win the court case, Milton Keynes could see wind farms built between Haversham and Little Linford and another near Lavendon.

Mark Lancaster, MP for Milton Keynes North, said: "It flies in the face of localism, that the financial gain of a multinational company should interfere with our council trying to do its job and protect its residents."

City centre shopping hub may be sold

ONE of the city's shopping centres could soon be under new ownership.

A number of 'options' are currently being considered by the company that owns Midsummer Place Shopping Centre in CMK.

Legal & General Property (LGP) recently considered bringing in a partner to help run the shopping centre in a joint venture.

A number of bidders came forward, and some of those offered to buy the centre outright.

The company has now said it is considering some of those as options for the future of the shopping centre.

A spokesman said: "Legal & General Property has owned Midsummer Place since 2003, during which time it has put in place a significant number of asset management initiatives in order to successfully improve the tenant mix and drive footfall.

"We believe in Milton Keynes as a major regional centre and the important role that enhancing and improving the retail space at Midsummer Place can play in supporting this position.

"We recently looked at options for allowing another investor to joint venture us on this successful scheme and as a result received a number of offers from parties looking to acquire the asset outright.

"These potential investors are of a similar size to us and share our vision for the shopping centre.

"We are currently carefully considering our options, but are a long way off making any decisions."

The spokesman added that any changes would not alter plans to expand the shopping centre, saying: "In the meantime, most importantly, we continue to focus our efforts on actively managing the asset and the extension proposals."

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Man posed as police officer to dodge fare

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

A MAN pretended to be a police officer to try and dodge a train fare.

Ian Umney, 19, told railway staff he was a policeman and that he believed this entitled him to travel for free in the first class carriage of the Virgin Birmingham to MK train.

During a hearing at Milton Keynes Magistrates' Court on Wednesday the court was told how Umney, from Shrewsbury, had a set of handcuffs with him which he believed would help convince rail staff.

But he couldn't give a shoulder number or station phone number when asked, and when challenged by transport police officers at MK Central station he admitted he was lying.

Umney pleaded guilty to travelling on a railway without paying a fare, and impersonating a police officer on December 28, 2011.

He said the handcuffs were his brother's, who he claimed collected police memorabilia, and that he had been asked to take them from their former home in Telford to a new flat in the city.

Umney was also found guilty of having an imitation firearm without reasonable excuse after a trial, as he was found with a BB gun during the incident.

This he also claimed belonged to his brother and was used for a paintball-like sport called airsoft. He said he was also taking the gun from Telford to Milton Keynes.

The gun was in a shoulder bag, unloaded and Umney had checked it was safe and did not use it to aid his deception.

Defence solicitor David Clarke said Umney had a reasonable excuse to be carrying the gun, but the magistrates disagreed.

Umney will reappear for sentencing on January 3.

In training: Olympic bronze medallist diver Tom Daley with Southside Thunder Under 11s in Woburn Sands

Tom dives in at football training

SOUTHSIDE Thunder Under 11 football team got a new goalie on Saturday when Olympic diver Tom Daley joined in with a training session.

Caroline Wright, whose son Sion is a member of the team, won the afternoon with Tom in a Facebook competition run by Nestle, which sponsors him.

The team spent time asking Tom about what it was like to be in the Olympics, before trying on his bronze medal and posing for photographs.

The London 2012 Olympic medallist then took part in a light skills session on the training pitch at Fulbrook Middle School in Woburn Sands, including a penalty kick competition and a short game where he played in goal.

Team coach Jim Collings said: "Tom was brilliant with the children and really inspired them."

MKNEWS BRIEFS

Hairy men raise £1,000

A HAIRY business in the city has raised £1,045 for Movember. Male staff at marketing agency Interdirect took part in the month-long moustache-growing charity campaign, which raises cash and awareness of testicular and prostate cancer.

Lions Club helps out

THE Lions Club of Bletchley has been sprucing up and entertaining residents at a care home in Wolverton. The kind-hearted volunteers have cleared footpaths, cut back foliage and tidied up the gardens at Orchard House. And in October, the club organised a concert with musical duo Wendy & Laurie, while in November they hosted a bingo session.

Company's £18k for hospice

A HOUSEBUILDER has chipped in with an £18,000 donation towards Willen Hospice following the success of a charity golf day.

More than 100 of Taylor Wimpey's employees, suppliers and sub-contractors teed off in teams of four for a round of golf and then celebrated, or commiserated, at an awards dinner at the event in September.

A charity auction, with prizes donated by the suppliers and sub-contractors, completed a hugely successful day's fundraising for the hospice.

The cheque for the donation was handed over to the hospice on November 23.

Second carol service at cinema

A CAROL service being held in a cinema has sold out – but a second date has been added.

As reported last week in MK NEWS, new church St Mark's is holding a carol service at Cineworld in Xscape as it does not have a permanent building.

The service, called Glow MK as there will be glow sticks given out, is at 7pm on Tuesday December 18 and has already sold out, so they will now be putting on a second service at 8.30pm.

To claim your free tickets for the evening, go to www.glowmk.com.

Mick Harford, Gary MacKenzie, Ian McLoughlin, Ronnie McKeemar, Darren Potter, Alan Smith and Antony Kay

MK Dons tackle darts event

THE Dons are used to shooting from distance but this Sunday they will be taking aim from close range in a Celebrity Pro-AM Charity Darts night at stadiummk.

First team players Alan Smith, Antony Kay, Ian McLoughlin, Gary MacKenzie and skipper Dean Lewington will be joined by head of scouting Alex Rae and assistant manager Mick Harford in the club's first ever darts competition.

The event is in aid of Prostate Cancer UK, the Football League's official charity of 2012/13, and the MK Dons Sport and Education Trust's disability teams.

Former double world champion Dennis 'The Menace' Priestley, who was diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2007, will also feature in the star-studded night.

Doors will open at 4pm. Tickets for the event are available from the Box Office at stadiummk or thecentre:mk or by calling 01908 622900. They are priced at £12 per head.

Drivers face hike in parking costs

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

PARKING charges in the city centre are set to go up as part of new council budget proposals.

From February motorists could be facing higher hourly fees to park in Central Milton Keynes as part of a budget in which the council needs to save more than £16million.

Red 'premium' spaces could go up from £1.20 an hour to £1.40, and 'standard' purple spaces will increase from 30p to 40p per hour, if the plan is agreed next year.

The move will cost £100,000 to implement, but would raise an estimated £1.4million for the Milton Keynes Council coffers.

Councillor Edith Bald, who is in charge of finances at MK Council, said: "This is about choices.

"A small change to parking brings in £1.4million. Think about the services given to vulnerable people costing £1.4million.

"You have got to compare the fairness of raising parking charges against other services."

Cllr John Bint, who is in charge of transport, said this is the first time in 'five or ten years' that the charges have been put up.

But when asked if an increase was being proposed because there is no election next year, he denied this.

He said: "If anyone has an alternative proposal where this money can be found somewhere else, then we would welcome that input.

"There could be new ideas that we have missed, so the current consultation is genuine."

If people want to comment on the plans for the council's budget in 2013/2014, they are available to view on www.milton-keynes.gov.uk.

For more details on the budget, turn to pages 20 and 21.

MKNEWS BRIEFS

Primark opening

CLOTHING retailer Primark will open the doors on its new Milton Keynes store on Wednesday, December 12. The store at the MK1 retail park at stadiummk will open at 9am, becoming the sixth store to open there including Marks and Spencer and H&M.

Volunteer award

A FOUNDER volunteer at Bletchley Park has won a national award. Margaret Sale, who is 80 and has worked at the park for 21 years, won the Sunday Telegraph and Waitrose British Volunteer Award. She was one of 20 people picked from 850 country-wide recognised for 'making Britain a better place'.

Three AFC fans arrested at game

THREE arrests were made at the MK Dons v AFC Wimbledon match on Sunday.

The three men, who were all AFC Wimbledon fans, were all arrested for minor public order offences.

Two were arrested after the game, and one before the match, and all three were given fixed penalty notices before being sent on their way.

The day was described as 'lively' by Thames Valley Police.

Prior to the FA Cup second round match, the police had said that they were treating the historical event the same as any other game.

See MK SPORT for more.

Station works close to finish

THE council has apologised for delays to completing work at Wolverton railway station.

That comes as it announces the final phase of the works will begin in January, and will take an estimated ten weeks.

A Milton Keynes Council spokesman said: "The council wishes to apologise to all station users and the local community for the delay in finishing the station which was due to complications that arose with the new station drainage. A solution to this has now been found."

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Priorities wrong in the Conservative budget

SIR – The Conservatives on Milton Keynes Council are proposing a bad budget.

They want to cut local bus provision by £1m, yet they are spending £1m on a statue in Campbell Park.

They want to cut pavement repairs and grass cutting by £1m, yet they want to spend £1m on a football field by the Network Rail building.

They want to put up bus fares for young people by 70 per cent at the same time as increasing parking charges in CMK by 30 per cent.

The Conservative budget does not add up and has its priorities wrong. Perhaps they asked Gordon Brown to write it?

Catherine Barnes
Emerson Valley

No to Soviet Socialist Republic of Europe

SIR – Huckstering for the European Union does not do Cllr Nigel Long, an otherwise intelligent man, any credit. He is resurrecting arguments that were lost years ago (MK LETTERS, Nov 28).

For instance, Nigel says we benefit economically from the EU. Not so. We have never enjoyed superior trading benefits from EU membership. Mexico trades on better terms with the EU than we do! In fact we trade at a loss with the EU.

Cllr Long also says Milton Keynes "needs European investment". Except that Britain, having tipped billions of pounds into the EU black hole, actually receives her own money back as 'European investment'! So much for that!

Spaniards and Greeks, who could have been following exactly the sort of advice Cllr Long gave in his letter, recently returned strong, pro-EU governments. They've paid a price, though, for maintaining their "positive relationship with Europe".

Spain is blessed with 25 per cent unemployment and the Greeks are putting their children into care because they can no longer afford to bring them up themselves. Is that what Cllr Long wants for Milton Keynes?

The people want to loosen the red tape that binds us to the EU. Slowly, surely and inevitably, the government is taking this line. Not fast enough for some, certainly, but even the most blinkered europhile has to recognise that we can no longer stay as we are.

Cllr Long might want to see Britain subsumed into the Soviet Socialist Republic of Europe, which is obviously the EU's end game, but only the dinosaurs agree with him – and we all know what happened to them.

Councillor Don Hoyle
Loughton Park Ward

Stick to dog bins and speed humps please

SIR – Cllr Nigel Long's letter on Europe is little more than a rant.

He talks about European exports and suggests this is linked to the UK's EU membership. By his figures, 53 per cent of our exports go to non-EU parts of the world that do not ask us for billions of pounds every year.

I suspect Cllr Long doesn't run an export business. I do and in 2008, over 50 per cent of our sales were derived from Europe. Now, only 20 per cent of sales are to Europe and most of the 80 per cent is to north America and Canada – clear evidence that the EU debt fiasco is a weight on our country's economy.

Membership of the EU does not drive jobs and investment. If the product is right, people will buy it, which is why Cllr Long is most probably wearing clothes made in China or some other non-EU part of the world. We don't live in 1975 anymore – we live in a global economy where people work together, whether in the same office or on different continents.

In reality, it's as easy to sell to Australia, North America, or Saudi Arabia as it is to an EU country. And there's less bureaucracy with non-EU countries.

Perhaps Cllr Long could stick to discussing dog bins and speed humps?

John Baker
Woughton

More views on the new Primark

You can find more comments on www.mk-news.co.uk

The store should be located in thecentre:mk but why don't they look at taking over the building that will be left when Waitrose move out. Let them have the whole site. They could even demolish that and create a purpose-built store in its place. It would only require relocating a couple of other businesses.
Andrew Foster

I am totally against Primark coming to MK Centre. The market should stay as it is. It is busy and in a good location. The road bridge should not be closed – we already know how it affects local traffic from the lengthy closure some time back.
Hilary Manning

Do they really want MK to turn into a traffic congested mess with tailbacks like the rest of the country? There has already been enough alteration to the grid road system. I note that the V10 near the new Oakridge development hasn't been doubled and it is already busy. How much worse will this become? Let's have some forward-thinking planning!
Ravegran7

Iain's Monthly Focus

Iain Stewart MP answers your questions

Local politics and bus travel on the agenda

MK's youth MPs, Elizabeth Beale and Dan Morrison, put their questions to Milton Keynes South MP, Iain Stewart.

How can you expand the opportunities available to young people in MK to get involved in local politics?

IS: I believe political leaders can do more to reach out to young people. One way I do this is an annual debating competition for students in years 10-13 in secondary schools across Milton Keynes. The finals are held in Parliament so participants get a feel of what it is like to debate in the House. I also visit as many schools and youth groups as I can, so that young people can ask questions about my role and better understand how the decisions made in Parliament affect them. Young constituents often write to me requesting to spend a day or two with me as I carry out my parliamentary duties. This is another way of expanding on the opportunities for young people to get involved in politics.

Is enough being done to make buses an accessible method of transport for all young people?

IS: Many local services charge half price for under 16s and provide free travel to and from school. In MK, the council has the All-in-1 MK card, for all under 19s permanently resident in the city – even those not in part or full education. Card holders travel without time restrictions on any bus within the borough. They also have an option of a ten trip ticket for £3.50, a weekly ticket for £5 or a monthly ticket for £17.50. This offers great flexibility and really helps young people. Through the Transport Committee, I have been looking at ways of improving bus services generally.

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TV show restores home left in chaos

Relief at last: Melinda Messenger with Richard, 17, Kate and Mike Snow, Henry, 20 and Dominic Littlewood

BY ANNA MAUREMOOTOO
anna.mauremootoo@mk-news.co.uk

A DISABLED woman has finally had work on her home completed – thanks to MK NEWS and TV show Cowboy Builders.

MK NEWS highlighted the plight of Kate Snow from Stantonbury in March after builders abandoned her garage conversion. She says it left her £30,000 out of pocket.

Days later the production company behind Channel 5's hit TV show contacted this paper to see if they could help.

Mrs Snow said: "I was a bit sceptical when I was first approached by Cowboy Builders but I'm so grateful to everyone who helped and donated supplies. I'm really glad I did it now.

"It's been brilliant and I have a lovely bathroom now."

Mrs Snow, who suffers from chronic degenerative spinal arthritis, hired a building firm in 2011 to convert her garage into an office, landscape her garden and alter her bathroom.

After six months of turning up without the materials to finish the job, the builders eventually stopped work all together.

It took just ten days for Cowboy Builder's host Melinda Messenger and her crack team to finish the work with help from Mrs Snow's two sons Henry, 20 and Richard, 17.

Mrs Snow said: "We went away for ten days to a friend's caravan in Norfolk and it was finished when we got back.

"It was lovely to get away because it was our first holiday in seven years.

"I'm looking forward to seeing what the children did when they were working at the house because they haven't let me see that on the film yet, so that will be a complete surprise."

The plight of Mrs Snow and her unfinished building work will be screened tomorrow night (Thursday) on Cowboy Builders at 9pm.

The Channel 5 programme is fronted by presenters Melinda Messenger and Dominic Littlewood.

MKNEWS BRIEFS

Pub to be demolished

RESIDENTS and councillors are celebrating news that a derelict pub is to be demolished with work commencing in January. The White Hart in Bletchley is set to be developed into a mental rehabilitation centre and councillors from the Bletchley area met with the firm arranging the demolition, Robinson Lloyd Architects, on Friday.

Electrical items stolen

EXPENSIVE electrical items were stolen in a burglary between 4.45pm and 5pm on Monday, November 26. Offenders gained entry to a property in Great Linch, Middleton by forcing a window. If you have information call 101.

'Outstanding' centre

FAMILIES at Hedgerows Children's Centre have been celebrating after a recent Ofsted report found the centre to be 'outstanding' for meeting the needs of families.

Teen's bike stolen at gym after knife threat

A 19-YEAR-OLD boy was threatened with a knife and robbed while leaving DW Sports Fitness centre.

At 7.30pm last Tuesday the victim and his brother were leaving the centre when a man threatened the victim with a knife.

The victim left his bike, ran back into the gym and asked the staff to call the police.

The victim then returned outside when he was approached by the offender and a second man.

This offender then picked up the victim's bike and cycled off towards Granby.

Anyone with information should call 101.

Closure of unsafe footbridge

DUE to safety concerns the Simpson Ouzel footbridge has been closed until further notice.

Rob Riekie, head of operations at The Parks Trust, said: "We're sorry for any inconvenience this will cause but the bridge was coming to the end of its natural life and we've taken the decision to close it as the safety of our park users is very important to us."

The Parks Trust has been having discussions with the Environment Agency about the replacement of the bridge and has submitted a design.

There are alternative river crossings at the Open University, near St Michael's Church and at Simpson Road.

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Frame and fortune: Trudy Phillips is auctioning this shirt signed by former Arsenal footballer Thierry Henry

Get in the frame for Henry shirt

A PICTURE framer is auctioning for charity an Arsenal shirt signed by the team's former star Thierry Henry.

Trudy Phillips thought the charity auction would be a good way to celebrate moving to a new premises at InterAction:MK in Peartree Bridge, where she opened at the weekend.

She said: "Twenty per cent of the winning bid will go to Destiny School in Uganda, that I visited with Stony Stratford Community Church on a mission trip."

The rest of the money will go to support her community interest company Acacia Works, which teaches people skills like framing and wedding photography through workshops at InterAction:MK.

Bids for the shirt must be in by next Wednesday. Call Trudy on 01908 661913.

New council tax benefits scheme

BY ANNA MAUREMOOTOO

anna.mauremootoo@mk-news.co.uk

A NEW scheme has been unveiled to help needy people who will face contributing to their council tax bills from next year.

From April the Government is abolishing council tax benefit and handing over responsibility to local authorities under 'Local Council Tax Support' schemes.

Under the scheme, everyone of working age will be expected to contribute to council tax. The changes are being made because the Government is reducing the funding for council tax support.

For Milton Keynes Council that means a loss of £1.8 million in the next financial year.

At a cabinet meeting last Wednesday a Local Council Tax Support Scheme was proposed including a £250,000 Discretionary Fund to provide assistance to needy residents.

Councillor Edith Bald, cabinet member responsible for finance, said: "The changes to Council Tax Benefit imposed by Government have put us in a difficult and challenging situation.

"Whilst we are asking everyone who receives benefits to make a contribution towards council tax, we recognise that some people are in exceptionally difficult circumstances. The discretionary hardship fund will be their essential safety blanket."

Other recommendations include capping support for households currently receiving up to 100 per cent Council Tax Benefit at 80 per cent and incentive to work provisions, allowing people to earn more without their council tax support being affected.

Pensioners will not be affected by the changes.

The proposals have gone out to consultation and are due to be discussed in February.

MKNEWS BRIEFS

Santa Jog cancelled

THE annual Santa Jog around Willen Lake for the British Heart Foundation, which was due to take place on Sunday, was cancelled due to flooding. It is hoped a replacement event can be organised. Those who were due to take part should keep an eye on www.bhf.org.uk, and search for Milton Keynes, to stay updated.

Center Parcs' manager

A GENERAL manager has been appointed for a new holiday village being built in Woburn Forest. Wayne Matton is taking on the role at Center Parcs Woburn, which is due to open in spring 2014. He has been with the company for 12 years. Construction started last week.

Hot drink thrown at attack victim

A MAN was punched and had a hot drink thrown over him in an attack at Central Milton Keynes railway station.

At about 3.30pm on Monday, November 19 the victim was waiting at the taxi rank outside the station when he was attacked by two men and left with a cut to his ear.

One of the offenders was white in his 30s, around 5ft 10ins with fair hair and had a Staffordshire bull terrier with him. The other was a white man wearing a dark jacket and was approximately 5ft 5ins.

Anyone with information should call Thames Valley Police on 101.

Householder foils burglary

TWO men are being sought after trying to break into a home in broad daylight.

On Thursday, November 22 at around 3.47pm offenders attempted to gain entry to a house on Clay Hill, Two Mile Ash. They were disturbed by the occupant of the property.

Both are white men, aged between 18 and 25-years-old and were wearing dark clothing.

Anyone with information should call the police on 101, or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

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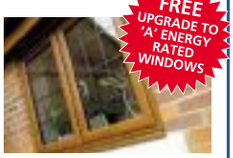

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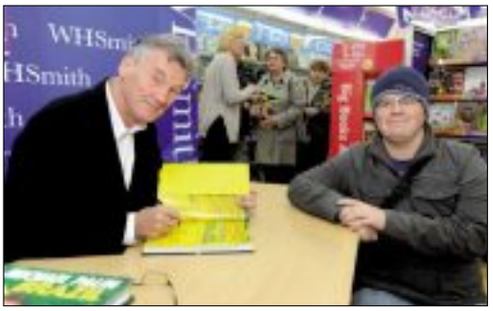

World traveller: Michael Palin signs a book for Matthew Field

Michael Palin signs new book at Smiths

MONTY Python star, comedian, TV presenter and globe-trotter Michael Palin took time off from his travels to visit Milton Keynes yesterday.

The actor-turned-world-explorer dropped in to WH Smith in thecentre:mk to sign copies of his new book Brazil.

The aptly-named title describes his journey through the fourth largest country in the world, from the Venezuelan border and the forests of the Lost World to the border with Uruguay and the Iguacu Falls.

Police arrest trio after centre raid

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

THREE men have been arrested as part of the investigation into a robbery at Fraser Hart jewellers in thecentre:mk.

The men, aged 32, 29 and 23, who are all from London, have been arrested on suspicion of robbery and released until early January.

The incident happened at 10.17am on Friday, when the centre was busy with Christmas shoppers.

Management at thecentre:mk confirmed that prior to the incident, jewellery stores at the centre had taken advice from the British Council of Shopping Centres, following last month's raid at Brent Cross, and had reduced the stock on display.

Police continue to appeal for witnesses and anyone with any information about the incident should contact PC Graeme Williams in Milton Keynes CID on the non-emergency number 101.

If you don't want to speak directly to the police, you can contact the independent charity Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or online at www.crimestoppers-uk.org. No personal details are taken, information is not traced or recorded and you will not go to court.

The incident happened almost three years to the day that the Leslie Davis jewellery store was stormed by armed robbers.

In that incident on December 1 2009, shots were fired and CS gas was let off by the men as they fled the scene.

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Christmas cracker: Paul Bullion in the Boots television advert

It's a cracker! Paul stars in Xmas TV ad

A CITY actor has landed a Christmas cracker of a role in a new festive TV advert.

Paul Bullion, 24, of Newport Pagnell, is appearing in this year's Boots Christmas campaign which is being seen by millions around the country.

The former Ousedale School pupil said: "It was very enjoyable to be part of the Christmas advert. I had a lot of fun with the cast and crew. My friends and family were surprised to see me in it as not many people knew I was filming."

Investigation call over new railway

BY ANNA MAUREMOOTOO
anna.mauremootoo@mk-news.co.uk

CALLS have been made to investigate the impact that a revived East West Rail service will have on residents near the route.

After a 25-year campaign by various pressure groups, the line is due to re-open in 2017 and it is hoped that travel between Oxford, Cambridge and Milton Keynes will become much easier.

Councillor David Hopkins, cabinet member for economic development and enterprise, wants the cabinet to highlight, at the earliest opportunity, any issues residents and those using the city access points in Woburn Sands and Bow Brickhill will face.

Speaking at last Wednesday's cabinet meeting he said: "While welcoming the funding and momentum of East West Rail, it's one of those things that's double-edged.

"I live in one of the areas that is affected.

"There's much to commend the ethos and the thinking behind the Government announcement, but there's been too little information as to the impact of this enthusiasm for the railway on the lives of those living close to the line, and on traffic, like at the crossing in Bow Brickhill and Woburn Sands."

Council leader Andrew Geary added: "This is something I'm very happy to write to Iain Stewart MP about.

"I'm sure he would be keen to ensure that the fullest information is given, and that community meetings are held."

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Cloudy2Clear service the Bedford, Milton Keynes & Leighton Buzzard areas and Billy is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

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Christmas charity appeal launched

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

A FAMOUS charity appeal that has raised tens of thousands of pounds in Belfast is now being launched in Milton Keynes – by the son of the founder of the Christmas initiative.

Former Milton Keynes Council leader Sam Crooks is starting a Christmas charity appeal this year based on one launched by his dad, Sammy Crooks, in Northern Ireland in 1976.

As Dean of Belfast Cathedral, Sammy senior was motivated by an earthquake in Pakistan to sit outside the building each day of the week before Christmas and collect cash.

He did this using only a table and a barrel, which he used to collect donations from people who were walking past.

In his final year of the appeal eight winters later, he managed to raise £50,000. To this day Belfast's Deans continue the tradition each Christmas.

Now Sam Crooks junior is hoping to spark up the same tradition in his home town to coincide with the annual Christmas Appeal which started yesterday at The Church of Christ the Cornerstone.

Sam Crooks with Timothy Whyte and Rev Ernesto Lozada-Uzuriaga

He said: "This year we aim to raise £3,000 in total.

"The appeal kicked off yesterday and goes on for a month, with the highlight being a sit out in the last week before Christmas.

"I want to do this for five years, and in the same way my father got up to £50,000, I want to get the money up much higher than £3,000. I would also like it to become a fixture for Christmas in the city."

Sam and others will be sitting outside the church making the collection every day, 9am-8pm, from Monday, December 17 to 6pm on Christmas Eve.

There will also be a template of a reindeer, which children can colour in by sticking coins to it.

This year's beneficiaries are MK YMCA, Open Door, CAFOD and Redway School. There will also be a collection for the Food Bank. You can also donate at www.localgiving.com by searching for Cornerstone, or by texting MKCC12 to 70070.

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MK mum wins gold in awards

A CITY businesswoman has scooped a prestigious national award in recognition of her innovative range of changing bags.

Mum-of-two Charlotte Jamme, founder and managing director of Mia Tui bags, received a Gold Award in the Best Travel Product category of Wednesday's 2012/13 Mother & Baby Awards, held by Mother & Baby Magazine – the Oscars of the parenting industry.

And the achievement was even more sweet as Charlotte, from Broughton, just last month considered giving up her business after being defrauded out of £2,300 by an international email scam – as reported by MK NEWS.

Charlotte, centre, with dad Len Adams, Dominic Holland and Abby Carvosso

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

THIRTEEN new eco-friendly waste collection trucks will soon be on the streets of Milton Keynes after a £1.8million Government grant.

Milton Keynes Council was awarded the cash to purchase new chassis for its 13 food and garden waste collection vehicles, which will enable them to run on biomethane produced from the borough's organic waste.

The council is one of 85 local authorities successful in a bid for the funding from the Department for Communities and Local Government to support weekly refuse collection.

The council said the funding will provide 'considerable' savings in rising fuel bills, which will help keep the cost of weekly waste collections down. The funding will begin in 2013/14 with the aim of delivering the new vehicles by 2014/15.

The converted vehicles will have lower CO2 emissions using fuel from a renewable source, and improved air quality as biomethane produces less particulate and fewer nitrogen oxide emissions than diesel.

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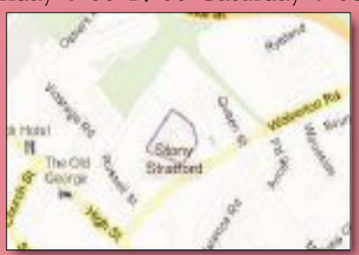

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Fans' joy as popstar Olly appears at HMV

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

HUNDREDS of screaming fans took their chance to meet their hero, popstar Olly Murs, last week.

And some of those fans have been sending in their pictures of them with the star to MK NEWS.

The singer, who finished second in the 2009 edition of TV talent show X Factor and who now presents its sister show The Xtra Factor, visited HMV in thecentre:mk last Monday.

He was signing copies of his new album Right Place Right Time, but also took the time out to say hello to 400 adoring fans who had queued patiently to meet their idol.

Reader Mandy Jackson took daughter Jasmine and friend Orlagh O'Neill to meet Olly.

She said: "He seemed very caring and attentive to all his fans."

If you have any stories or pictures that you would like to share with MK NEWS, then check out our website www.mk-news.co.uk, and click on the 'Send us your news and pictures' link on the right-hand side of our home page.

Hugs all round: Olly Murs fan Jasmine gets close to the man himself

'Caring': Superfan Mandy with the popstar, left, and Orlagh gets a kiss

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School blanket drive to keep elderly warm

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

A CAMPAIGN to keep elderly people warm has been launched just as the cold weather starts to bite.

The Webber Independent School and Age UK Milton Keynes are asking for people to Donate a Blanket to provide older people with extra warmth this winter.

The two organisations are hoping to encourage the Milton Keynes community to donate one blanket per family.

The Webber Independent School, which is based in Stantonbury, launched the Donate a Blanket campaign last year and residents responded by donating 50 blankets in just ten weeks.

They were taken to homes right across Milton Keynes.

Sue Vig, principal at The Webber Independent School, said: "We are delighted to have partnered with Age UK Milton Keynes again this year as last year was such a success helping to keep the elderly warm.

"We are fully committed to helping our local community and the partnership with Age UK Milton Keynes is a great way for the students to integrate with residents."

Suzanne Campbell, Aum Raykar, Sophie Shrimpton, Hilary Marsden, Yuya Naito and Emma Simmonite from Webber Independent School

Jane Palmer, chief executive of Age UK Milton Keynes, said: "Anything that helps make the cold winter weather less of a worry for older people is a good thing.

"We are delighted that The Webber Independent School is encouraging us all to do something practical to support local people in later life and help them through the winter."

Donate a Blanket started on Saturday at the school's public Christmas Fayre, and will now continue throughout the winter and into the new year.

The blankets will be taken to homes within the local community and any additional blankets will be available in Age UK Milton Keynes shops.

To donate a blanket visit reception at The Webber Independent School between 9am and 4pm. Knitted blankets are welcome but won't be sold in the shops.

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Normal entry prices will be charged to residents from outside Milton Keynes.
Those in attendance will be greeted by snow, skate rink, Outdoor Market, children's activities, Fairground rides, Lanterns on the Lake (Sunday only), Hog Roast, Santa's Grotto, rock climbing wall and much much more.
Last year saw attendances in excess of 12,000 and this year it is expected to be another huge one on the events calendar for Milton Keynes.
Gennaro Corrado Cultural Events Coordinator for West Bletchley Council.
"We were obviously overwhelmed by the number of visitors in 2011 and again have worked hard alongside Bletchley Park to raise the bar, as we attempt to bring a fantastic atmosphere and experience to such a classic scenic venue for visitors"

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Brought to you by West Bletchley Council inassociation with MK News & Bletchley Park

How council will save

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

NEXT year Milton Keynes Council is tasked with making savings of £16.5million to balance its books.

The proposals were published last week, and on Wednesday night the decision-making cabinet agreed to put those plans out to public consultation.

At the meeting councillor Edith Bald, who is in charge of finance, said: "This year's budget is especially difficult.

"The cuts in Government funding are relentless and this could get even worse.

"Only as a last resort would we propose to remove services.

"This year we are proposing service reduction charges of £2.5million out of a services budget of £205million, so that's only one per cent.

"There are other charges that would hit front-line services, which we are not prepared to support."

The budget will finally be agreed in February after a period of public consultation.

If you would like to comment on the budget proposals, go to www.milton-keynes.gov.uk.

Here, MK NEWS lists some of the proposals:

'Difficult' budget: Cllr Edith Bald

Parking: Charges in Central Milton Keynes are set to increase, from £1.20 to £1.40 an hour in premium 'red' spaces, and from 30p to 40p in standard 'purple' spaces. There is an expected saving of £1.4million, net of a £100,000 implementation cost.

Travel: There will be an increase in junior concessionary fares on buses, from 35p to 60p, which in the next financial year is expected to save £250,000.

There will also be an increase on the Junior Cityriders scheme to £8.50 per week, or £30 per month.

There will be an increase in the Community Transport fare, from £2.65 to £3.90 for a return journey, and to £2.20 for a single journey. This is expected to save £31,000 in the next financial year.

Grants: Grants to voluntary youth organisations would cease, with a phased reduction for some. This would achieve savings of £148,000 over three years.

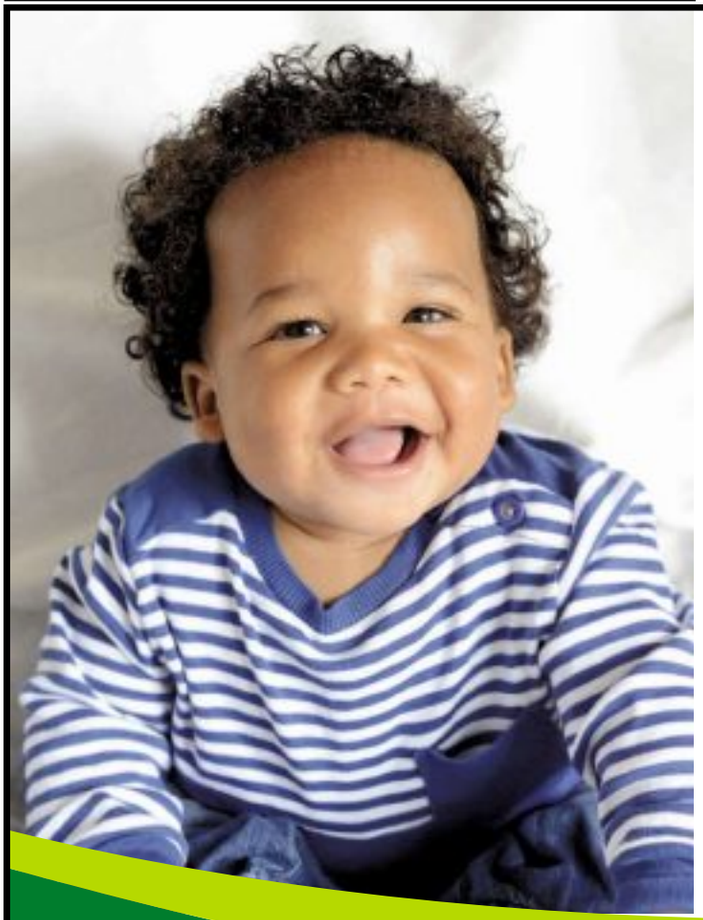
There will be a continued reduction in Arts Grants from the council, of £11,000 next year and £8,000 the following year. There is also a continued reduction in Community Sports Grants, of £2,000 in each of the next two years.

Children and young people: There will be a review of the youth service including consideration of the provision of youth centres, and consideration of closing some children's centres and commissioning external providers.

Neighbourhood wardens: All council-employed wardens would be removed, making a saving of £125,000 next year. Currently some parish councils employ their own wardens.

Bulk waste: A charge for bulky waste collections will be introduced, of £10 for up to five items. Subsidies will be applied for those on benefits. This is expected to save £350,000.

Land assets: There is expected to be a net income of £200,000 from the recently-acquired Homes and Communities Agency land and property.



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We welcome your experience of life.
We all have areas of our lives when things haven't gone to plan, but we've survived, and your experiences in life could be valuable as Daniel grows up. As well as being fun and rewarding, being an adoptive parent means you'll make a big difference to Daniel's life – **AND YOURS TOO!**

For more details about Daniel and adoption, please contact the team.

Call **0800 073 3344**, email us on **adoption@islington.gov.uk** or text **DAN** and your email address to **07786202195**

£16m next year

Travel expenses: Junior concessionary and Community Transport fares could rise

Parking charges could go up

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Foster carers praised by Ofsted inspectors

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

THE fostering service run by Milton Keynes Council has been praised following a recent Ofsted inspection.

The service was commended for its quality of care and the thorough practice by both staff and foster carers in a report published by the education watchdog last week.

The Ofsted report gave an overall effectiveness rating of good, with some outstanding features.

Inspectors reported that excellent support and supervision are provided to foster carers and that staff and foster carers demonstrate a keen commitment to providing quality of care to children and young people. It also stated that there are effective procedures and practices in place to ensure that the assessment process is robust and successful.

The service supports more than 150 carers, including those with long-term and permanent placements, and short-term respite care.

Milton Keynes Fostering Service is seeking foster carers from a wide range of backgrounds and experience. For more information call 01908 253206 or email DutyDesk@milton-keynes.gov.uk.

Bird in hand: Ollie the baby owl was saved by good Samaritan Paul Doidge

Ollie the owl saved after fall

LITTLE Ollie the owl was rescued by a sharp-eyed dog walker after falling from the roof of a barn.

Paul Doidge from Two Mile Ash was out with his pooch when he spotted what he thought was a dead owl chick on the floor of a barn.

But Paul discovered the chick was alive despite falling from rafters.

So he nursed the chick, which he named Ollie, back to health over a period of weeks. And fortunately he has made a full recovery. Not only did he save Ollie's life but he also built a new box which he fitted in the barn, with help from MK platform manufacturing company Niftylift.

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www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/fostering
tel: 01908 253206

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Foster carers come from all walks of life. We offer support, professional training and a generous fee up to £450pw and a fostering allowance up to £180pw (dependant on scheme and experience).

Following the success of our last 'drop in' evening we are holding a further event on the 10 December. Staff will be on hand to discuss any questions you may have and literature will be available covering the various aspects of fostering.

Drop in evening details:

Date: 10 December 2012. Time: 6-7pm

Venue: Reception area, Saxon Court, 502 Avebury Boulevard, Milton Keynes MK9 3HS

For more information please contact: Fostering Duty Desk 01908 253206 or email dutydesk@milton-keynes.gov.uk

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Merry Xmas: Dame Cleo Laine features on a festive stamp

Stamp of approval for jazz legend Cleo

A SPECIAL Christmas stamp featuring the legendary jazz singer Dame Cleo Laine is on sale at Bletchley Park Post Office.

It has been released to mark Dame Cleo's Christmas concert at The Stables and will raise funds for The Wavendon Foundation, set up by Dame Cleo and her late husband Sir John Dankworth.

This isn't the first time Dame Cleo's face has featured on a stamp, she recently appeared on a set released to celebrate her 85th birthday.

Commuters face rise in rail fares

BY ANNA MAUREMOOTOO
anna.mauremootoo@mk-news.co.uk

COMMUTERS are facing above inflation increases for annual rail season tickets including journeys from Milton Keynes to London.

Regulated fares, including season tickets, will rise by an average of 4.2 per cent from January.

Currently an annual season ticket from Milton Keynes to London Euston costs £4408 but from January it could go up to £4593.

Higher increases were due to come into force but the Government decided instead to limit rises to inflation plus one per cent.

Train companies have the flexibility to raise some season tickets above the ceiling rate as long as their average increase is no more than 4.2 per cent.

Andrew Pakes, Labour Parliamentary spokesperson for Milton Keynes, said: "Commuters face another cold winter of above inflation rail fare increases. Remember, the Government wanted to put fares up even further but were forced to back down by campaigners.

"After the £40million shambles of the West Coast franchise, this is another example of a Government out of touch with the needs of families worried about transport costs."

Iain Stewart, Conservative MP for MK South, said: "Rail fares increased by an average of 70 per cent under the Labour Government so they are in no position to make criticisms."

More on www.mk-news.co.uk.

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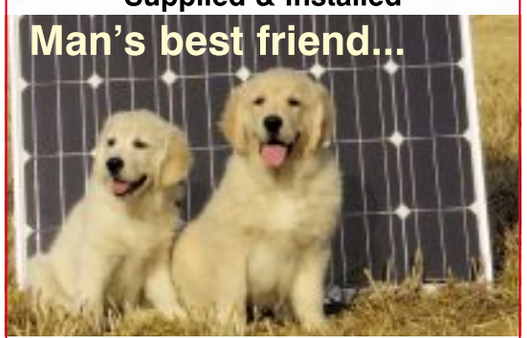

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Olympic stars gather

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

LEGENDARY Olympian Dame Mary Peters joined some of the heroic athletes from London 2012 for a celebratory event at the Open University on Friday.

Dame Mary gave an inspirational and at times rousing speech to a packed gallery of students, university staff and press as part of the event, which honoured those Olympians who also study through the OU.

Inspirational: Dame Mary Peters

Dame Mary herself received an honorary degree from the university, based at Walton Hall, earlier this year in Belfast, for public services.

Her athletics career spanned 16 years, competing for Great Britain at three Olympics and Northern Ireland in five Commonwealth Games.

She won a gold medal in the Pentathlon at the Munich Olympics in 1972 with a world record score – a record which still stands to this day, as after 1972 the event was changed.

On Friday, Dame Mary said: "1972 was the worst year of the troubles in Northern Ireland, and often I had to get two buses to training, hearing the bombs going off. I often wondered why I didn't turn around and go home, but it was because I had a dream.

"No-one in Britain expected me to be successful, but I had that dream.

"I once sat with journalists one night before an event, drinking my gin and, I'm ashamed to say, smoking a cigarette, and they asked me what I expected to do.

"I told them I was going to go for gold. I wasn't the best athlete in the world, but I became the best because I believed I was going to be."

Dame Mary also spoke of her experiences of taking a young 16-year-old South African runner called Zola Budd under her wing, and of the death threats Budd received after a collision with Mary Decker in the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics 3,000 metre final.

And speaking about this year's London Olympics, Dame Mary said: "To me London was about pride – pride of being British, and of the volunteers who I applaud for making such a special games."

Also present at the question and answer event, which saw an unveiling of a special plaque to commemorate the Olympians, was Bedford's canoeing gold medallist Etienne Stott, who is currently studying for a degree in psychology.

He said: "For me sports and study are very much linked. It's good to know I have a life outside sport and knowing you have a future outside of sport is another way of reducing the pressure. Studying can take your mind off things when you need to."

Other Olympians at the event included rowing bronze medallist Alan Campbell, and women's hockey bronze medallists Alex Danson and Helen Richardson.

Helen, who is also studying psychology, said: "There are comparisons to study and doing sport at an elite level. I'm used to goal setting in hockey and giving myself weekly targets so that comes in useful when I have to study. The determination I have in sport is also another great asset in getting down to study."

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www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/adoption Duty desk: 01908 253654
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If you would like an informal chat to one of our team members please call in and see us at our drop in evening as detailed below:
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Venue: **Reception Area, Saxon Court, 502, Avebury Boulevard, Milton Keynes MK9 3HS**
Time: **6pm - 7pm**
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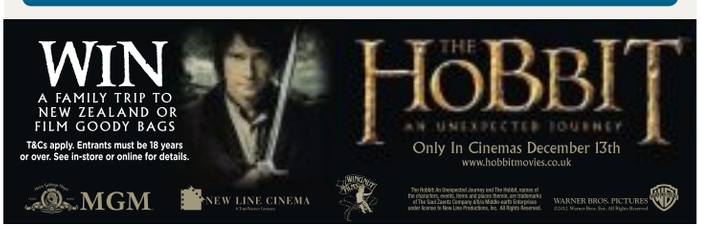

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MK BUSINESS

Hundreds turn out at opening

ANOTHER store at the new MK1 Shopping Park has opened its doors to shoppers.

High street fashion retailer H&M launched at the site last Thursday and hundreds of eager shoppers queued up to check out the new store.

Shopper Carry Togelton, aged 34, who lives at Walley Drive in Bletchley, said: "It looks really impressive. H&M is my favourite clothes shop and this one is really nicely laid out.

"For me it's in a great location and saves me the bother of going into town. Also, the parking is free so that's a bonus."

The new H&M has more than 1,800 square metres and will employ around 20 members of staff.

H&M is the fourth retailer to open at MK1, joining Outfit, River Island and Marks & Spencer, with Primark opening soon.

Welcome: Manager Rachel Wells cuts the ribbon to open the new H&M clothing store in the MK1 Shopping Park

Buyers queue all night for chance to get new home

HOUSE hunters queued for 19 hours overnight for the chance to purchase a new two bedroom home in the city.

Six homes at the Brooklands development, near Broughton, were put onto the market in November, and those on the short-list turned up at developer Places for People's office to stake their claim.

Some people even queued as early as 3pm the previous afternoon.

First-time buyer Suzan Akbulut, 23, was at the head of the queue and spent a chilly night in her car.

She said: "I was so desperate to get one of the houses. I've been waiting a very long time and wanted to make sure I got one – I love the houses and the development.

"A friend of mine brought me some takeaway, water and sweets, but I didn't want to drink too much and risk losing my place in the queue by having to dash off to the toilet."

MK trial for online site to find trusted local traders

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

A FREE web and mobile site to connect people who want to use the services of local, trusted companies, has launched a pilot in Milton Keynes.

The site, called iNeed (www.ineed.co.uk) is a new online and mobile venture that will put potential customers in touch with traders.

It is now on the lookout for handymen and women in Milton Keynes and the surrounding areas who are looking to broaden their pool of clients, and is also seeking customers to be part of the pilot.

The free-to-use platform aims to utilise the power of the web and social networking to solve customers' tasks, spanning a range of categories from building and gardening to dog walking and party planning.

Integration with Facebook and Twitter allows customers to seek out providers that their friends and family are connected to, have worked with and recommend.

It gives traders the chance to tap into these mutual connections to expand their reach and drum up more business.

It will allow customers to assign a job based on a provider's expertise and price, with the help of references and ratings from friends and family. Traders will be able to pick and choose which requests they are interested in completing, based on the skills required, the location of the job, and their own availability.

Simon Grice, managing director of iNeed, said: "Facebook is where you go to be social and see what your friends are doing; Twitter is where you go for general chatter; iNeed is where you go when you need something doing.

"By connecting you with local trusted people via your existing friends and connections we make it quick and easy to find the right trusted person to help you."

After an eight-week trial period in Milton Keynes, iNeed plans to make its service available to other towns, villages and cities across the UK.

To register for the pilot, see www.ineed.co.uk.

Light firm nets double award

A CITY manufacturer of environmentally-sensitive lighting is celebrating scooping a double award.

TowerLight, based in Wymbush, was victorious in both the Innovation and Environmental categories for its VB9-ECO Hybrid Battery lighting tower at the Speedy National Conference.

The unit utilises LED lighting with advanced battery systems, and can run on 90 per cent battery and ten per cent fuel.

Paul Hay, director of TowerLight, said: "We are delighted to have received these awards. It was an honour to have our product formally recognised for its environmental and innovative qualities."

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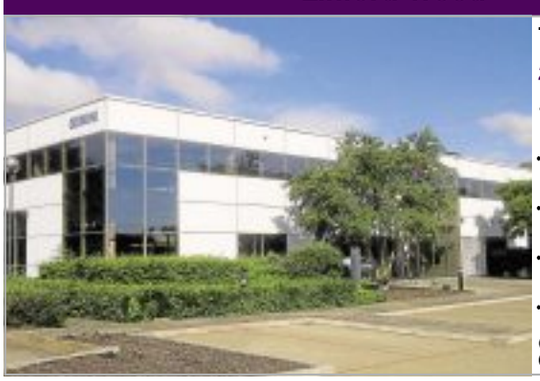

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MKBUSINESS

US political disagreements could lead to wider market implications

Markets remain subdued and dealing volumes continue to be thin across the globe.

November saw a victory for Barack Obama in the US election, but at the time of writing the Democrats and Republicans remain deadlocked over how to implement spending cuts and tax rises, which will be enforced under the Budget Control Act unless an agreement is reached by the end of the year.

The threat of recession in the US is very real unless consensus can be reached, and this would have wider implications for markets around the world.

During the course of the month the FTSE All-Share Index slipped 0.8 per cent, which is reflecting uncertainty.

Overall, the performance of companies with a presence in and around Milton Keynes was better than the index, with only three shares falling in value over the month.

The biggest of the fallers was Persimmon, which saw 3.2 per cent trimmed from its value despite an encouraging Interim Management Statement which highlighted the expectation of a return to operating margins within a range of 15 per cent to 17 per cent in the medium term.

Given the shares are up more than 60 per cent since the start of the year, it is no surprise that there has been some profit taking.

Home Retail also paused for breath after a strong recovery last month.

However, the demise of Comet could be good news for Home Retail's Argos, as its market share is absorbed by the remaining retailers.

Packaging company Rexam also came in for some profit taking after third quarter figures highlighted a good performance from its cans division, but a below-par performance from animal healthcare.

On a positive note, Walker Greenbank, the Tilbrook-based luxury furnishings and fabrics company, saw its share price rise by more than seven per cent as its Scion brand of Melinki fabrics won the Gold Award for Best Fabric in House Beautiful magazine's 2012 awards.

The group is launching a range of licensed products including rugs, bedlinen and towels in association with Brink & Campman and Bedeck in order to capitalise on the success of the range.

Glanbia continued to rise after last month's news regarding its tie-up with Dairy Ingredients Ireland, and AG Barr's shares rose by 6.9 per cent after the merger with Britvic was agreed by the two managements.

• Construction on AG Barr's new £41million Milton Keynes warehouse and canning factory is now well under way at Magna Park, in the east of the city.

The 265,000-square-feet building is one of only three production facilities currently under construction in the UK, and will create 100 jobs. The factory will produce 96,000 cans an hour – 4million every year. The company has said the merger with Britvic will not affect the build.

MarKetNEWS

	Oct 26	Nov 27	Change
A.G. Barr	445.7	476.5	6.9%
BP	429.4	431.25	0.4%
BT	215	226.3	5.3%
Coca Cola	$37.04	$37.42	1.0%
Domino's	508.5	522	2.7%
Glanbia	Euro7.50	8.02	6.9%
Home Retail	111.9	110.5	-1.3%
Persimmon	782.5	757.5	-3.2%
Rexam	445.3	434.6	-2.4%
Santander	455.5	465.75	2.3%
Shanks	82.6	82.9	0.4%
Tesco	317.5	321.2	1.2%
Walker Grnbk	67.25	72	7.1%

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The MarKetNEWS list contains a selection of companies with a Buckinghamshire presence. Prices and commentary have been provided by Paul Neanor of Charles Stanley Stockbrokers.

For professional stockbroking or investment advice, please call the MK team on 01908 691681.

Investors should be aware that past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future and that the price of shares, and the income derived from them, may fall as well as rise and the amount realised may be less than the original sum invested.

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Sweet taste of success: David Ndongo, Roy Mupoto, Hayley Smith and Amir Ahmed

Subway award for students

STUDENTS from Milton Keynes College have won Best Presentation at a Subway Design a Sub competition.

Students were tasked with designing a brand new sandwich to be sold in its stores throughout the east of England, and then presenting their ideas, including a detailed marketing plan, to a panel of Subway franchisees.

Bull's new look

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

ONE of the country's most famous and historic hotels will be reopening in April next year after a £600,000 update.

The Bull Hotel on Stony Stratford High Street will be opening following the large investment in the Grade II listed building's interior, work on which starts in December, making it the first boutique hotel in the town.

The hotel has been purchased by Whitehill Bookings and Punch Taverns, and will be managed by Lady Wendy Parry.

Lady Parry said: "The hotel is a very exciting project and will provide an excellent dining, drinking and sleeping location for the town to be proud of. The project will offer a luxury location for locals to use as well as attracting visitors from out of the area."

The hotel, which is said to have spawned the saying 'a cock and bull story' along with The Cock pub, is being converted into 12 boutique bedrooms, and will provide an eating venue with food and drink served all day.

Lady Parry said: "We hope the venue will offer as much for local people as it will to guests coming from outside of the area, and hopefully it will attract business to the town.

"We will be looking to provide exactly what locals will enjoy and will offer a fantastic location for everything from a freshly-made breakfast, coffee and pastries to a leisurely lunch, afternoon tea and a quality dinner in the evening."

New team members will be employed in the coming months.

MKBUSINESSBRIEFS

Expo support
WILLEN Hospice has been chosen as one of three charities being supported by Business Expo 3.0, the city's first international B2B exhibition. Held in March 2013, the exhibition will also support the MK Dons Sport and Education Trust and the NSPCC.

Foods gong
CITY-based Mexican food brand Discovery Foods has been honoured with an award to recognise the company's impact in the world foods sector. The company, from Kingston, received the Best Packaging Award at the World Food Awards 2012 for the introduction of its Perfect Fajita Kit design.

Drawing a Blanc
CELEBRITY chef Raymond Blanc made an appearance at his Brasserie Blanc restaurant in The Hub, CMK, for its reopening last Wednesday night.

MKlife

your guide to leisure in your city

Leisure or events news? e-mail **editor@mk-news.co.uk** phone **01908 689595**

Singing teapots and candlesticks at the Chrysalis

IT'S a Tale As Old As Time, and now production company CLICK bring the story of Beauty and the Beast to the intimate surrounds of the Chrysalis Theatre.

CLICK will transport you to life in a pretty, provincial French town, in the Disney version of the classic fable.

When inventor Maurice becomes lost on his way to the fair, he seeks shelter in an old castle and is taken captive by its master – a horrible Beast. His daughter Belle selflessly gives up her freedom to save his life.

Along with the castle's enchanted objects, stuffy head of the household Cogsworth, fun-loving maitre'd Lumiere, and the kindly Mrs Potts, follow Belle's story as she defeats the villainous Gaston, and tames the Beast.

With the famous Disney songs including Be Our Guest, Beauty and the Beast and many more Tony Award-winning numbers written specially for the musical, you'll be charmed by this unforgettable Disney classic live on stage.

The show kicks off next Wednesday, December 12 and runs until Saturday, December 15. Show times are 7.30pm, with a Saturday matinee at 2.30pm. Tickets £12, £6 concessions, from 0844 8700 887.

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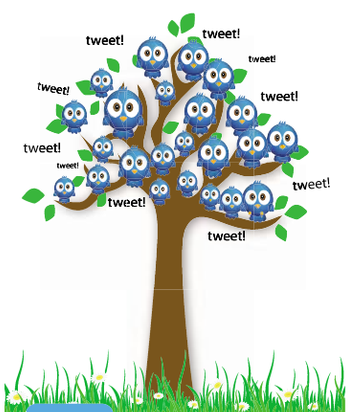

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Special 20th anniversary event

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MKlife
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Columnists

Top celebrity trainer Matt Roberts has some tips to ensure that little black dress is a stunner rather than a squeeze

THE nights are drawing in. It's reality TV season. Tabloids have tittle-tattle about celeb' bodies. Sofas become hibernating dens. Festive food lists are written. Chocolate selection boxes scoffed.

It's no wonder that little black dress we promised ourselves we'd look gorgeous in this year is more of a challenge than a dreaded task on I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out Of Here.

Motivating yourself when the weather's cold and the nights are long is hard.

Here are a few tips that might help you along the way:

• Arrange to meet a friend for a run or join a club/gym that has set training times – you're more likely to stick to a pre-agreed training session.

• Ensure your exercise routine is varied – constantly challenging the body to produce results, making sessions more enjoyable and warding off that feeling of reaching a plateau in your training.

• Build in regular check points and then reward yourself for achieving each goal. Set a target like 'I will do 30 minutes of running three times a week for the next month'. If by Christmas you've achieved that goal then treat yourself.

• Then remember to set the next goals for 2013!

If none of these work, then perhaps put a 'Training with You' programme on your Santa wish list.

For more information on Matt Robert's Training with You programme, call Conviviality on 01428 788 070 or email mattroberts@conviviality.com.

comedynight

THE Stables presents comedy stars of tomorrow at the laugh-a-minute show Screaming Blue Murder.

Angie McEvoy, whose festival credits include; London Respect Festival, Latitude Festival and Edinburgh Festival, is the evening's compere.

She introduces rising star Ola – finalist in the FHM Search for A Stand Up Hero – and headliner, deaf comedian Steve Day who is a familiar voice on Radio 4. The lineup may be subject to change.

Screaming Blue Murder is at The Stables on December 12, starting at 8.45pm. Tickets cost £10 in advance from www.thestables.org or £12 on the door.

festivetunes

THE world famous Virtuosi GUS Band is returning to Stantonbury Campus Theatre to perform a Christmas concert full of our festive favourites.

The band is riding high on recent success including being crowned Midland Champions for the second year in a row and a closely fought runners-up position in this year's All England International Masters Competition.

Hailing from Northamptonshire, the brass band has been applauded throughout the concert halls of the UK and abroad.

Virtuosi GUS Band appears at Stantonbury Campus Theatre on Saturday December 8, at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £11, concessions £9 from www.stantonbury.org.uk.

groovetime

FORMER Tower Of Power and Tina Turner saxman Euge Groove caused more than a bit of a stir last year when he came over for his first UK solo tour.

He returns to The Stables with his new album The House Of Groove plus a selection of his biggest hits to keep his UK fans happy.

And with an impressive band featuring Simply Red's Mark Jaimes on guitar, Incognito's Tony Mason on drums, Otto Williams on bass and Andy Whitmore on keyboards, this performance should get people up and dancing in the aisles.

Euge Groove is at The Stables on Friday from 8pm Tickets cost £19.50 from www.thestables.org.

martialarts

JACKIE Chan and Bruce Lee are the undisputed kings of martial arts at the movies and films like Fists of Fury and Enter the Dragon will always be classics.

If you fancy a more updated take on the genre though, you might fancy heading to the cinema to watch The Man With The Iron Fists.

The stellar cast includes Russell Crowe and Lucy Liu in an epic story of warriors and assassins in 19th-century China.

Making his debut as a big-screen director is Rza, of Wu-Tang Clan fame, who also appears in the film, playing The Blacksmith, who starts creating weapons in a small village.

Soon he is faced with a foe and the fight to protect the small community begins in earnest.

bronzeage

ONE of Milton Keynes' finest bands Our Man In The Bronze Age will be performing at the last of this year's Craufurd Sessions.

The five-piece outfit bring together a three-way guitar assault, four-part vocal harmonies and piano sections to create story-telling music.

Formed in 2004, the band has recently released its debut album, The Gallows Tree.

Joining them at Saturday's session is Seven Hundredth Unicorn.

Conceived earlier this year, the experimental rock metal two-piece cite bands such as Black Sabbath, Neurosis and Cult of Luna as major inspirations.

Tickets for the Craufurd Session on December 8 cost £6 from www.thecraufurdarms.com. Doors open at 7.30pm.

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localscene

TOMORROW'S Scratch Night at MK Gallery is an opportunity for artists and makers to voice their views on the local scene in Milton Keynes.

Members of staff from the Gallery and other key cultural organisations in the area will be in attendance so you can get along and make your voice heard. It's free from 6.30pm.

On Saturday, a number of artists will be performing at Secret Anarchy Garden 2012. It costs £5 to get in and is on between 5pm and 10pm.

For a full list of all the artists visit www.mkgallery.org.

ianstone

COMEDY returns to the Sno!Bar at Xscape tomorrow for all those who like to work out their funny bones.

On the bill this time is Ian Stone, who recently appeared on telly music quiz Never Mind The Buzzcocks.

He's got a host of other TV appearances to his credit including Mock the Week, The 11 O'Clock Show and The Late Edition. He is also a regular at The Comedy Store in London.

Stone, who will headline the night, is as an edgy and provocative comedian with an easy-going manner and self-deprecating style.

A keen Arsenal fan, he also co-hosts the podcast, The Tuesday Club and even went to the same school as comedian David Baddiel!

He will be ably supported tomorrow by Brainiac's Joe Rowntree.

Tickets cost £10. Doors at 7pm. Group discounts call 01908 680824.

dancetime

PEOPLE are always moaning about kids not getting enough exercise, so here's something that might help with the problem.

Nickelodeon Dance 2 is out on the Wii and xbox Kinect this week and it will definitely get the little ones up and about.

Youngsters see cartoon characters strutting their stuff on the screen and are able to dance along. And parents can help thanks to on-screen lyrics for the favourite songs.

There is also a new Freeze Dance-mode which is like a twist on the classic game, musical statues.

The game now includes 20 characters, twice as many as the original.

And all-new party tracks include songs from Nickelodeon TV shows like The Fresh Beat, Bubble Guppies, Dora the Explorer, Team Umizoomi and The Backyardigans.

It will be great fun for them and more suited to their tastes than more adult dance games like Just Dance.

But don't blame us if you buy it and end up getting drawn in yourself. You have been warned!

Your essential guide to events big and small throughout Milton Keynes

MKlifeHOTPICKS

lightsbrigade

THE streets of Wolverton will be illuminated with lights and laughter with the town's 24th Lantern Festival on Saturday.

The evening of festivities will start and finish in The Square from 6pm, with Wyvern First and Bushfield Middle Schools joining community groups including Wolverton Cubs, Friends of the Park and St George's and Holy Trinity Churches to parade giant creations.

Entertainment will be provided by Wolverton Town band, a street band, jugglers and other artists.

got an exciting event?
email adam.grinsell @mk-news.co.uk
see our online gig guide
www.mk-news.co.uk

cindersurprise

IT'S that time of year when boos ring out across the Theatre District.

Friday marks the beginning of the month-long panto run at Milton Keynes Theatre. Louie Spence, Anna Williamson, Deniece Pearson and Kev Orkian bring you the laughs and drama of Cinderella. Tickets from www.atgtickets.com.

christmastwist

CELEBRATE Christmas Dickens-style on Sunday at the Cowper and Newton Museum in Olney.

Part of the town's much-anticipated Dickensian Christmas festival, the Museum will be offering Punch and Judy in the courtyard with hot chocolate, cream and marshmallows, spiced tea and mince pies.

Opening from 10am-4pm, see www.olneytowncouncil.gov.uk for details.

snowkidding

WHATEVER the weather forecast for this weekend, there promises to be snow at Bletchley Park.

West Bletchley Council, with the help of MK College, is holding its ever-popular annual Festival of Christmas on Saturday and Sunday between 10am and 4pm.

It includes a market, a skate rink, Santa's grotto, a funfair and, of course, a snow machine.

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Academies Enterprise Trust

Head of House Administrator

£13,589 per annum pro rata

The Sir Herbert Leon Academy is a new member of The Academies Enterprise Trust (AET), a multi-Academy sponsor which aims to provide the opportunity for all young learners to fulfil their real potential, broaden their horizons and become active, prosperous and successful citizens in the world around them.

The Academy is seeking to recruit an administrator who will be responsible for providing administrative support to help enhance the service offered. The successful candidate will be an experienced office administrator with good ICT skills. Effective organisational skills and the ability to communicate effectively will be an advantage.

Interview date: Week commencing 17 December 2012

Employment will commence January 2013. This is a fixed term position until 22 July 2013.

Closing date: 10 December 2012

For further information on this position and to make an application please visit: www.academiesenterprisetrust.org/careers

Each of the academies within the AET is committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and expects staff and volunteers to share this commitment. A Criminal Records Disclosure at Enhanced Level will be required for all posts.

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For full details visit our website www.can.org.uk

CAN offers competitive salaries,24 days annual leave plus statutory days, Pension Scheme and development opportunities. Closing date for returned applications is, ***Sunday 16th December 2012.***

Alternatively you can email recruitment@can.org.uk, fax 01604 635679, or write to the Administrator, 8 Billing Road, Northampton, NN1 5AW giving your full name and address to request an application pack.

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Experience

- 3-5 years providing support at the executive level is desirable
- In-depth knowledge of MS Office and common business applications

Desired key competencies

- Organisational, time management, and planning skills
- Ability to communicate effectively at all levels, both verbally and in writing
- Good interpersonal skills
- Problem analysis and problem solving skills
- Attention to detail and accuracy
- Ability to appropriately take initiative
- Ability to meet deadlines
- Capable of working independently with little or no supervision
- Confidence working across all levels of the organisation
- Capable of handling and safeguarding confidential information
- Proven capability to work under pressure

The successful candidate would be required to start as soon as possible working 20 hours per week. Salary will start at £10,000.00pa with 25 days holiday (pro rata).

To apply, please submit C.V. and covering letter to Kayleigh Pierce, HR Advisor: kayleigh.pierce@flintgrp.com

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Salary: Teacher Main Scale

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- Be an excellent classroom teacher.
- Have the ability and desire to teach across all key stages and curriculum areas.
- Inspire children and ensure learning takes place in every lesson with every child.
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Appointments are subject to satisfactory references and CRB checks.

Please contact personnel@shlacademy.org to request an application form/return completed forms.

Closing Date: Wednesday 12th December 2012.

Interview Date: Week commencing 17th December 2012.

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11-19yrs Number on roll: 790

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The job includes:

- Supporting all children with their learning
- Working with identified children to enable them to learn in the classroom
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For either post you will need to:

- Be organised
- Have a good standard of English and Maths
- Be able to work on your own initiative
- Have a firm but fair approach
- Stay calm in difficult situations
- Be flexible with working times

References will be taken up prior to interview and all candidates must complete a CRB enhanced check.
Visits to the school are encouraged from applicants who seek a unique and inspiring environment in which to work.

Please contact the school office for an application pack on
Tel: 01908 377833
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Start Date: January 2013

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The role demands the ability to work both independently and as part of a team, responding to tight deadlines. The varied duties will include being the in-house user expert on the centralised document management system, as well as maintaining the data on our ERP computer system and staff training records.

The successful candidate will need to demonstrate excellent communication capabilities, both written and verbal, and good organisational and administrative skills, with an in-depth knowledge of, at least, Microsoft Office 2010. Some experience of working in a supervisory role and/or in a regulated environment and with a fully integrated computerised system would be advantageous.

WAREHOUSE ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT

This role demands the ability to work both independently and as part of a team, reporting to the Warehouse Administration Co-ordinator. The duties will encompass the day-to-day administrative and operational activities of various functions within the warehouse, including scheduling deliveries, arrangement of transport and maintenance of computerised records. Excellent organisational skills are required in order to respond to changes in priorities at short notice and work accurately to tight deadlines.

The successful candidate will need to demonstrate good communication capabilities, both written and verbal, and good administrative skills, ideally with some knowledge of Microsoft Office 2010. Some experience of working in a regulated environment and with a fully integrated computerised system would be advantageous.

If you would like to apply or you want to find out more about either of these roles, please contact:
The HR Manager, Dermal Laboratories Limited, Tatmore Place, Gosmore, Hitchin, Herts, SG4 7QR
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Closing date: 14th December 2012

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Visits to the school are encouraged and welcome.

Closing date: 7th December 2012
Interviews: 12th December 2012

Application forms and further details are available by contacting Mrs. L. Moore, Headteachers PA at the school, or via the school website www.robertbruce.beds.sch.uk

Robert Bruce School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers in school to share this commitment.

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Headteacher: Maxine Burrows

As from January 2013

English Teacher

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This could be either a full or part-time post.

The opportunity exists for suitably experienced candidate to gain a Teaching and Learning Responsibility.

We welcome applications from Newly Qualified Teachers.

Closing date: Monday 10th December
Interviews: w/c Monday 10th December

Mrs Burrows is available for tours of the school and an informal chat.

Full details of the post and the Bedford Borough application form available from our website www.newnham.beds.sch.uk

Alternatively please contact Pauline Corbyn, Headteacher's PA (pcorbyn@newnham-middle.org.uk)

Newnham Middle School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. The position requires an enhanced criminal records bureau (CRB) disclosure

Bedford Borough Council

For this week's vacancies visit www.bedford.gov.uk

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INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

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The role will involve the overall leadership and management of the centre and co-ordinating an effective, personalised curriculum for each student.

The successful candidate must be a qualified teacher with leadership experience and the ability to teach a range of subjects to GCSE level. Significant experience working with students who have emotional and behavioural difficulties and the ability to work under pressure are essential. In addition, the candidate must subscribe to the school's fundamental ethos of 'never giving up on anybody'.

Job description and application forms are available from the school's website. Please send applications for the attention of Julie Shepherd or by email to hr@biddenham.beds.sch.uk.

Closing date: Monday 10th December at 6pm
Interviews: Friday 14th December or Monday 17th December

All appointments at Biddenham International School are subject to enhanced CRB clearance.

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We are looking for staff to join our vibrant school.

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Due to ongoing improvements and developments, vacancies have arisen in the following areas

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We are seeking to appoint a variety of motivated, caring and enthusiastic Teaching Assistants. The hours of work arebetween the hours of 8.30am – 4.00pm on a term time contract.

Salary: NJC scale- Level 2A points 10- 13 starting salary of £13,874 - pro rata

Safeguarding Officer

In addition we are seeking to appoint a Safeguarding Officer to meet the specific needs of our children and community to ensure that our Safeguarding procedures are exemplary in all areas. You will need to have experience of working in the same or similar role. The successful applicant will be working directly with our Head of School and will need to work with and in confidence at all times. The hours of work are 37.5 per week on a term time contract.

Salary: NJC Scale – Level 4E points 25 – 28 starting salary £21,519 – pro rata

The closing date for all positions is midday on Wednesday 19th December 2012 and we will be interviewing in early January 2013.

If you want more information please phone us to have an informal 'chat' with the relevant person on 01234 352901. You are very welcome to visit the school and meet us all.

For further information and an application pack please contact Julie Petty, Office Manager, Queens Park Academy, Chestnut Avenue, Bedford, MK40 4HA

Tel: 01234 352901 email: jpetty@queenspark.beds.sch.uk
www.queensparkacademy.co.uk

Queens Park Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the criminal records bureau

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Commencing January 2013

We have a vacancy for a part time Teacher of Key Stage 4, General Science to ages 14-16 years in this friendly, successful and over-subscribed multicultural upper school. You will be joining a vibrant and dedicated department which offers a progressive curriculum and fosters creative learning and high achievement within our inclusive, close knit learning community.

Job description and application forms are available to download from the school's website. Please send applications for the attention of Julie Shepherd or by email to hr@biddenham.beds.sch.uk.

Closing date: Monday 10th December at 4pm

All appointments at Biddenham International School are subject to enhanced CRB clearance.

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To request an application pack please contact Sonia Duthie.

Email sonia.duthie@wave3enterprises.co.uk or telephone 01234 880170.

Closing date for applications: Noon - 12 December 2012.

Interviews will be held on: 19.12.12 and 20.12.12 between 9am and 1pm at our offices in Olney, Buckinghamshire.

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For further details and an application form, please visit our website www.waltonhigh.org.uk or contact Human Resources on 01908 247600 (24 hours).

Closing date:
Midday, Monday 17 December 2012.

Walton High is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff to share this commitment. These posts require an enhanced CRB disclosure.

Milton Keynes Education Trust
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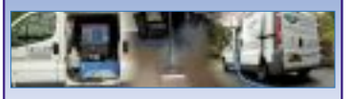

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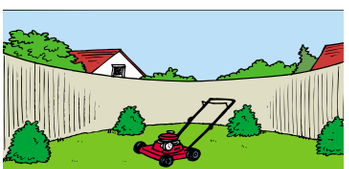

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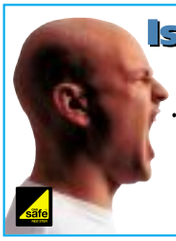

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Public Notices

MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF PROPOSED NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA FOR THE PARISH OF GREAT LINFORD

Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012

Milton Keynes Council has received an application for the designation of a neighbourhood area and, in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, the Council is carrying out a seven week consultation on the proposed Neighbourhood Area from **Wednesday 5 December 2012 to Wednesday 23 January 2013.**

The application:

Great Linford Parish Council – the Parish Council has submitted proposals to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan for Great Linford that covers the whole parish area. The application is accompanied by a map showing the extent of the proposed Neighbourhood Area and a statement from the Town Council explaining why and how they intend to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan for the area.

The application can be seen on the Milton Keynes Council website at: http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/planning-policy

How to comment:

All comments on the proposed Neighbourhood Area must be received by the Development Plans team by **5pm on Wednesday 23 January 2013.** Comments can be made:

By email to: development.plans@milton-keynes.gov.uk
By post to: Development Plans, Milton Keynes Council
Planning, Economy and Development
Civic Offices
1 Saxon Gate East
Central Milton Keynes MK9 3EJ
By fax to: 01908 252330

Please note that this is not a consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan itself, but merely the identification of the area for which the Parish or Town Council wish to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan. Neighbourhood Plans are a way for Town and Parish Councils to help shape how their community develops over the coming years.

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES

VARIOUS ROADS WITHIN BRADWELL COMMON MILTON KEYNES, RESTRICTED PERMIT PARKING AND WAITING ZONES EXPERIMENTAL ORDERS 2012

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes has, on the 21st November 2012, taken the decision to suspend the two Orders, the titles of which are recited at the end of this Notice, under Section 10(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. The Orders were made on the 16th October 2012 and came into effect on the 29th October 2012. Their purpose was to carry out an experimental scheme of traffic control for a period of 12 months on various roads within Bradwell Common, Milton Keynes, introducing a restricted permit parking and waiting zone, notification of which was published on the 17th October 2012.

The Orders will remain suspended until further notice during which time the Council will be considering whether the provisions of the experimental Orders should be brought into effect at a later date.

Philip McCourt, Assistant Director – Law & Governance 5th December 2012
Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes

Titles of Orders

The Council of The Borough of Milton Keynes (Various Roads, Bradwell Common) (Restricted Permit Parking Zone) Experimental Order 2012

The Council of The Borough of Milton Keynes (Various Roads, Bradwell Common) (Restricted Waiting Zone) Experimental Order 2012

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES

(VARIOUS ROADS, CENTRAL BLETCHLEY AND FENNY STRATFORD) (CONSOLIDATION OF PARKING AND WAITING RESTRICTIONS) ORDER 2002) VARIATION ORDER 2012

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES (VARIOUS ROADS, WEST BLETCHLEY) (CONSOLIDATION OF PARKING AND WAITING RESTRICTIONS) ORDER 2002) VARIATION ORDER 2012

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes has on 5 December 2012 made the above 2 Orders under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. The Orders, which come into effect on 10 December 2012, affect all classes of vehicle and have the effect of prohibiting vehicles from waiting at any time along parts of the carriageways within roads in Bletchley, Milton Keynes, as follows:-

Denbigh Road service road and H10 Bletcham Way, Denbigh West;

Denbigh Road service road and V4 Watling Street, Denbigh West;

First Avenue (south-eastern arm), Denbigh West;

Romar Court, Denbigh West;

V4 Watling Street, V6 Grafton Street and Peverel Drive, Granby, Denbigh North;

Bramley Road, V7 Saxon Street and Dawson Road, Mount Farm;

H10 Bletcham Way, Mount Farm;

V6 Grafton Street, Denbigh North;

H10 Bletcham Way Central Reservation;

Bushy Close, Whalley Drive and Whaddon Way, West Bletchley.

Exemptions from the Orders include emergency service vehicles, military vehicles, statutory undertakers, building, demolition and excavation, disabled persons badge holders, and some others.

A copy of each Order together with maps showing the areas referred to and a Statement of Reasons for proposing the Orders may be inspected during opening hours at Milton Keynes Library, 555 Silbury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes, at Bletchley Library, Westfield Road, Bletchley, Milton Keynes and during normal office hours at Milton Keynes Council, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes.

Any person wishing to question the validity of either Order or any provision contained in either Order on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act, or on the grounds that any requirement of the Act or any Instrument made under the Act has not been complied with may, within six weeks from the date on which the Orders were made, apply to the High Court for that purpose.

Philip McCourt, Assistant Director – Law & Governance 5th December 2012
Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES (V10 BRICKHILL STREET (PARTS), VARIOUS ROADS, NEWLANDS, THE UN-NAMED ACCESS ROAD LEADING TO WILLEN LAKE AND THE UN-NAMED ACCESS ROAD LEADING TO WILLEN LAKESIDE PARK) (PROHIBITION OF WAITING RESTRICTIONS) ORDER 2012

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes has on 5 December 2012 made an Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. The Order, which comes into effect on 10 December 2012, affects all classes of vehicle and has the effect of prohibiting vehicles from waiting at any time along both sides of the carriageway within parts of the following roads at Newlands and Willen Lake, Milton Keynes:-

V10 Brickhill Street;

Frobisher Gate, Newlands;

Livingstone Gate, Newlands;

The un-named access road leading to Willen Lake;

The un-named access road leading to Willen Lakeside Park.

Exemptions from the Order include emergency service vehicles, military vehicles driven on operational duties, statutory undertakers, building, demolition and excavation, disabled persons badge holders, and some others.

A copy of the Order together with map showing the areas referred to and a Statement of Reasons for proposing the Order may be inspected during opening hours at Milton Keynes Library, 555 Silbury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes and during normal office hours at Milton Keynes Council, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any provision contained in the Order on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act, or on the grounds that any requirement of the Act or any Instrument made under the Act has not been complied with may, within six weeks from the date on which the Order was made, apply to the High Court for that purpose.

Philip McCourt, Assistant Director – Law & Governance 5th December 2012
Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES

(GIFFARD PARK LOCAL CENTRE) (ON-STREET DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACES) ORDER 2012

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes has on 5 December 2012 made the above named Traffic Regulation Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. The Order, which comes into effect on 10 December 2012, has the following effect in part of the carriageway within the road stated below:-

- The introduction of 2 disabled persons' parking places within the car park at Giffard Park Local Centre, Knebworth Gate, Milton Keynes.

All classes of vehicle are affected by the Order. Exemptions include emergency services vehicles, military vehicles used for operational purposes, vehicles used by statutory undertakers, and for building, demolition and excavation purposes.

Copies of the Order, a map showing the affected part of road, and the Council's Statement of Reasons for proposing the Order may be viewed at Milton Keynes Council, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm on any working day, at Milton Keynes Library, 555 Silbury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes and at Newport Pagnell Library, St John Street, Newport Pagnell during normal opening hours.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any provision contained in the Order on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act, or on the grounds that any requirement of the Act or any Instrument made under the Act has not been complied with may, within six weeks from the date on which the Order was made, apply to the High Court for that purpose.

Philip McCourt, Assistant Director – Law & Governance 5th December 2012
Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES

(VARIOUS ROADS, BROUGHTON) (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING AND DISABLED PERSONS PARKING PLACES) ORDER 2012

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes proposes to make the above named Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 which will affect all classes of vehicle and have the following effects on various roads located within Broughton, Milton Keynes: -

The introduction of No Waiting at any Time restrictions along some lengths of the un-named access road leading to Broughton Fields Primary School, Milton Road, Shackerstone Close, Watercress Way and Kingswear Drive, Broughton.

The introduction of No Waiting restrictions between the hours of 8.15am and 9.15am and between 2.30pm and 3.30pm Monday to Friday, along part of Shackerstone Close, Broughton.

The introduction of a parking place for disabled badge holders, the whole 24 hours of every day, along part of the north-east side of Shackerstone Close, Broughton.

The classes of vehicle affected by the proposed Order are passenger vehicles, dual-purpose vehicles, goods vehicles and disabled persons' vehicles. Exemptions from the proposed Order include: emergency service vehicles, statutory undertakers, some loading and unloading, building, demolition and excavation, disabled persons badge holders, and some others.

Copies of the proposed Order together with maps showing the areas referred to along with a statement of reason for proposing the Order may be inspected during opening hours at Milton Keynes Library, 555 Silbury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes, Kingston Library, Kingston Community Centre, 11 Winchester Circle, Kingston and during normal office hours at Milton Keynes Council, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes.

Any objections to the proposals, together with the grounds on which they are made, must be **made in writing** and sent to the undersigned **to be received** no later than 31st December 2012 quoting reference WL/P&E/006345/TRO/2036.

Philip McCourt, Assistant Director – Law & Governance 5th December 2012
Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes

Milton Keynes Council

The following applications may be inspected at the Planning, Economy and Development Department, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes. Representations, if any, to be submitted in writing to the above address within 21 days of the publication of this notice.

SECTION 73	**WITHIN A CONSERVATION AREA**
12/02503/CLUE	Certificate of lawfulness for existing use of the garage as a separate 2 bedroom detached dwelling at Bucken Cottage, Castle Road, Lavendon
SECTION 67 & 73	**LISTED BUILDING WITHIN A CONSERVATION AREA**
12/02298/FUL	Replacement glazed link (retrospective) at 30 Shenley Road, Shenley Church End
12/02299/LBC	Listed building consent for replacement glazed link (retrospective) at 30 Shenley Road, Shenley Church End
12/02477/FUL	Demolition of existing outbuilding and external garden walls including gated access to garden; erection of single storey double garage and new gated access to garden at Manor Cottage, Cross Lane, Weston Underwood
12/02478/LBC	Listed building consent to demolish existing outbuilding and external garden walls including gated access to garden; erection of single storey double garage and new gated access to garden at Manor Cottage, Cross Lane, Weston Underwood
SECTION 67	**LISTED BUILDING**
12/02361/FUL	Conversion of existing double garage to detached residential annexe and erection of detached garage at Manor Cottage, Leys Road, Loughton
12/02363/LBC	Conversion of existing double garage to detached residential annexe and erection of detached garage at Manor Cottage, Leys Road, Loughton
12/02364/FUL	Erection of a two storey front extension at Manor Cottage, Leys Road, Loughton
12/02365/LBC	Erection of a two storey front extension at Manor Cottage, Leys Road, Loughton
12/02507/LBC	Listed building consent to install new shop front at 152-154 Midsummer Arcade, Central Milton Keynes

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT (AS AMENDED)

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT

(DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES) ORDER 2010

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13

MAJOR	
12/02352/FUL	Removal of conditions 8 (Sustainability Statement) and 9 (Carbon Dioxide Emissions) attached to planning permission 11/02571/FUL at St Pauls Catholic School, Phoenix Drive, Leadenhall

Nick Fenwick
Assistant Director Planning, Economy and Development

MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL

MK NEWS

CONTACTS

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JULIE blonde blue eyed outgoing female, 31yrs, seeking laidback relationship with likeminded affectionate male, any age/looks or status. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 385595**

GEM 24, slim blonde with blue eyes, single mum of one, broadminded and extremely easygoing, WLTM genuine male for LTR. Dads welcome. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 385369**

DEBS 38 green eyed sophisticated blonde, attractive size 12, not looking for anything long term or steady just fun with intelligent male, 30-60yrs. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 386273**

SUE young looking vivacious female with great sense of humour, OHAC, independent, interesting and sensual, seeking single tactile male. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 386275**

JACKIE 32 attractive classy professional, blue eyes, brown hair, healthy/trim, well travelled, feminine, smart, seeks male, 40-50yrs. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 391013**

SUE brown eyed/hair, sincere, caring, very lonely, seeking someone to get close to again, for meals out, nights in and more, any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 390055**

LYNDA very attractive attached female, own transport and willing to travel, seeking similar natured male for extra circular activities. Must be discreet. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 386653**

JASMINE 36yrs, looking for lover friend and soul mate to share my life with. I'm attractive, loving, green eyed, curvy and tactile. Single dad welcome. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 388981**

CAROL attractive blue eyed blonde, slim, size 10ins, GSOH, great entertainer, good cook, well mannered, cheeky, sensual, romantic. So why am I single? Call me. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 388979**

AMANDA honest pretty single mum, 30, big brown eyes, attractive, seeking single male/dad for lots of tlc and companionship. Pls call. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 389737**

JANE divorced lonely single mum, OHAC, loves socialising, pubs, countryside, looking for male to love me again. Age/looks/race unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 388947**

JO 24yr old attractive blonde, own car/flat, seeks genuine guy for meals out, cosy nights in and quality times together, 30-55yrs. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 388951**

ANNE new to the area, loves travel, cinema, theatre, seeking sane happy male to share social, fun, romantic and loving times together. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 388977**

HI I'm Jo, petite, pretty, fed up with own company, seeking male to help me get back into the swing of things, for uncomplicated fun times together. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 387103**

DEBBIE slim outgoing approachable attractive lassie, 33yrs, GSOH, sporty, looking for non serious fun male for friendship, maybe more. Any age/looks/status. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 387101**

DONNA 24yr old single nurse, curvy, pretty, brown hair, big eyes, single and fun to be with, WLTM mature male for romance 25-45yrs. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 391117**

CHARLIE young 37yr old blonde attractive nurse, OHAC, no ties, new to the area and dating scene, looking to find love with genuine available male, 25-42 with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 387051**

TINA fit single tall slim blonde female 27, loyal, sincere, looking for friendship hopefully leading to LTR. Single dads welcome. **Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 388107**

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07(07) Fiesta Ghia TDCi 5 door, Tonic Blue	£6,395
09(09) Fiesta Zetec TDCi 5 door, Vision	£7,695
09(59) Fiesta Zetec 5 door, Vision Blue	£7,795
09(59) Fiesta Zetec 3 door, Moondust Silver	£7,795
11(61) Fiesta Zetec 5 door, Mars Red	£10,295
10(60) Focus Style Estate, Blue	£8,495
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Offer valid until 31 Dec 2012

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Up to 850cc from	£93.90	£47.45	£123.90	£62.45	£170.90	£102.90
900cc to 995cc from	£103.90	£55.95	£133.95	£60.95	£180.90	£119.80
1000cc to 1295cc from	£113.90	£60.95	£143.95	£65.95	£196.45	£129.90
1300cc to 1599cc from	£123.95	£65.95	£153.90	£90.95	£200.45	£138.50
1600cc to 1790cc from	£133.90	£70.95	£163.50	£95.95	£210.45	£146.90
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BMW 1 & 3 Series from	£158.95	£82.95	£198.95	£107.95	£253.90	£157.90
BMW 5 Series from	£163.95	£92.95	£208.95	£117.95	£273.45	£188.90
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Mercedes A Class from	£158.95	£82.95	£198.95	£107.95	£253.90	£169.80
Mercedes C Class from	£158.95	£92.95	£208.95	£117.95	£258.45	£179.90
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MoT (NORMAL PRICE: £54.85†)

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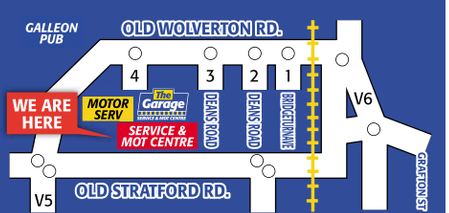

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7 year / 100,000 mile manufacturer's warranty. See your local dealer or visit www.kia.co.uk for full warranty terms and exclusions. Price correct at time of going to press and specification is subject to change without notice. Model shown is the new cee'd '1' 1.4 98bhp 6-speed manual @ £14,395 On The Road (OTR). OTR price includes VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months' Government Vehicle Excise Duty (VED) and Vehicle First Registration Fee. Retail customers only. Subject to availability on vehicles registered between between 1 October and 31 December 2012. *4.9% APR representative finance with 10% minimum customer deposit available on Kia Personal Contract Purchase on all new cee'd models. At the end of the Personal Contract Purchase there are three options: (i) Pay the GFV (Guaranteed Future Value) to own the vehicle (ii) Part exchange the vehicle, where equity is available or (iii) return the vehicle. Further charges may be made subject to the condition of the vehicle. Offer not available in conjunction with any other offer. Finance subject to status. Terms and conditions apply. Applicants must be 18 or over. Guarantees / indemnities may be required. Kia Motors Finance RH1 1SR. Customer savings vary by model derivative. Ask your dealer for full details.

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£16995

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2004 (53) 3 door hatchback with P/A/S, Front Electric Windows, R/C/L, Electric Mirrors, CD Radio. Taxed to 31/7/13 & MOT to November 2013.
£2495

VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 CLUB

2002 (52) Superb 5 door MPV 7 Seater with P/A/S, A/C, C/L, F/E/W, E/M, Stereo, Tow bar & electrics. 65k miles. 6 months tax & MOT to end of July.
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£1495

FIAT PUNTO 1.2

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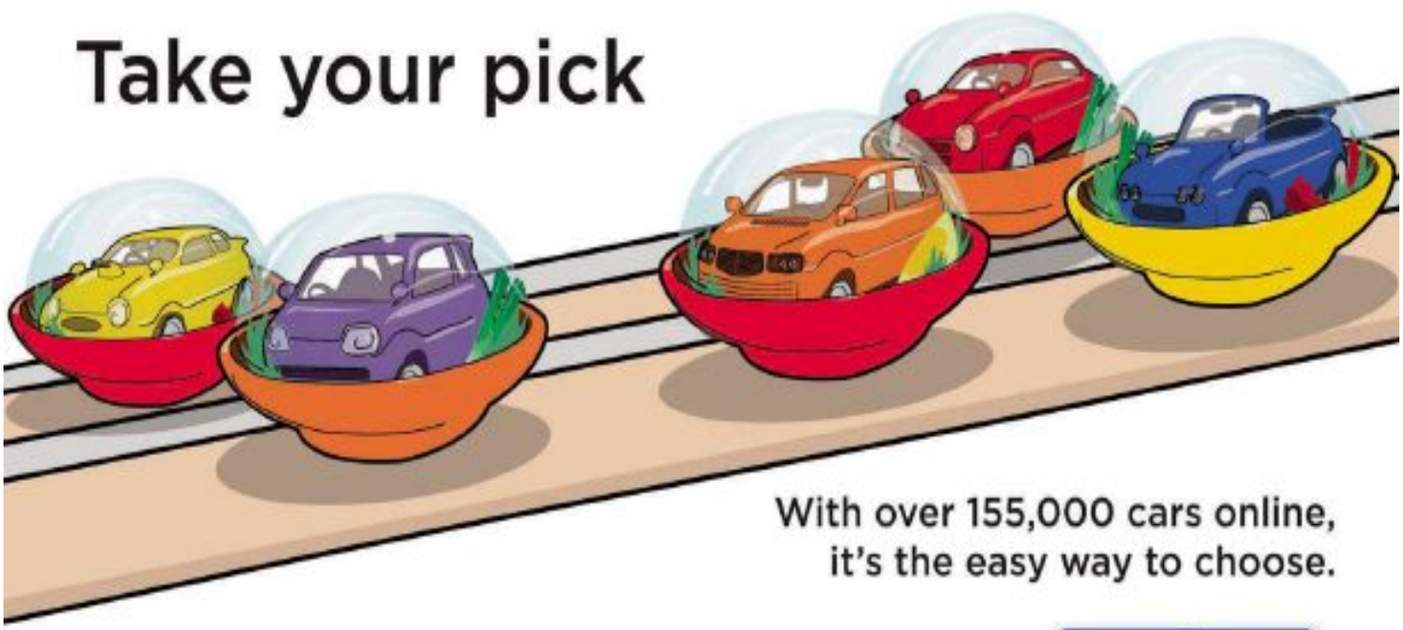

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Audi

AUDI TT QUATTRO 1.8 (225BHP)
2000, W reg, silver, 120K, FSH, TAX end of Jan, MOT July 13. High spec, 4 WD, heated leather seats. E/W, C/L, multi play CD.
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The best & worst from AFC match

TURNING POINT

IT did not win the game, but AFC Wimbledon's 58th-minute equaliser through Jack Midson changed the complexion of the tie. MK Dons thought they were coasting at 1-0 but AFC threatened the possibility of an upset with a diving header. It was end-to-end thereafter.

SAVE OF THE MATCH

THERE was only one winner here; David Martin's late finger-tip save to deny Steven Gregory.

A sloppy back pass put the AFC Wimbledon captain clean through and he must have thought he had found the bottom corner until Martin stuck out a right hand brilliantly tipped the ball round the post. Can you imagine the celebrations in the away end had that gone in? Minutes later, MK Dons scored the injury-time winner.

HEART IN MOUTH MOMENT

WHEN Jack Midson headed in the equaliser to spark frenzied celebrations in the away end, trouble looked on the cards. Tens of fans spilled on to the pitch, forcing their way past stewards and knocking over advertising hoardings. They reached the MK Dons penalty area and you feared a repeat of the incident at Leeds when Chris Kirkland was assaulted, but it turned out to be just over exuberance and order was quickly restored.

TALKING POINT

CAN this rivalry, which has been simmering ever since the fans creation of AFC Wimbledon in 2002, become a healthy one? Karl Robinson hopes so.

BEST DECISION

THE assistant referee made the correct offside call against Ryan Lowe, ruling out the striker's tap in at 1-0 which, if given, would have put the game beyond AFC Wimbledon's grasp.

BEST BANNERS

THE game was as much about the battle between the two sets of fans as it was about the players. The home support kicked things off with a sign which read: 'We're keeping the Dons… Just get over it'. The away fans responded with: 'We are the resurrection and we are the light'. The AFC fans will feel they made the most telling point of all with the banner: 'We are Wimbledon'.

BEST MOMENT

IF you are a Dons fan,Jon Otsemobor's last-minute flick was as surprising as it was timely. Neil Sullivan stood no chance with the instinctive effort from the most unlikeliest of sources.

BEST GOAL

STEPHEN Gleeson's. Who else? His swerving 30-yard drive into the top corner beat Sullivan all ends up and would have beaten any keeper in the world.

■ Compiled by Luke Peterson

■ For the match report and reaction from the FA Cup second round game, visit www.mk-news.co.uk/sport

ELBOW GREASE: Mark Harford joked he will get Karl Robinson back for catching him on the lip on Sunday
Picture: Andy Handley

Jon Otsemobor is mobbed after his winner

'I will get the gaffer back for the elbow into my lip'

MK Dons assistant boss MICK HARFORD writes exclusively for MK News every week

I SUSPECTED the emotions might get the better of some people on Sunday – and I am not just talking about the AFC Wimbledon fans who got on the pitch.

The gaffer got a bit carried away when Stephen Gleeson scored and caught me with an elbow right on the top lip. I know lots of people saw it on TV and it was quite a funny moment.

I would not have let people get away with that during my playing days so I've told Karl it is a long season and I will get him back. I think he just got carried away and he was quicker to react than me, probably because he has known Glees a lot longer than me and knew it was going into the top corner as soon as he hit it.

Apart from the gaffer elbowing me, I thought the players handled themselves very well. It was always going to be a heated game following all the build up and the atmosphere was great – it reminded me of an FA Cup semi-final. But the players kept their cool and I also think the referee was very good. He let a lot of tackles go that would probably have been a yellow or even a red in a league game.

He also did not make too much of a fuss of the AFC fans getting on the pitch when they scored. It was nothing malicious, after all. I think Karl was spot on with what he said after the game about how the rivalry should be a good one from now on but I suspect there will be a few people who will not want it that way.

For me, it was just nice to see a few of the old Wimbledon lads there. I saw Alan Reeves, Stewart Castledine, Martin Allen and Lawrie Sanchez were in the studio and, obviously, I played with Neil Sullivan.

It was our goalkeeper, though, who produced the key moment in the game. That save from David Martin kept us in it and, in the end, it was good to get the right result.

I was pleased for the lads but particularly pleased for the chairman. He has been under a hell of a lot of pressure so it must have been a good day for him.

It was a very iconic game and it was always going to be a tense affair. They came not to lose and it got very tense as they caused us a few problems. The draw was made straight after the game and we go to Sheffield Wednesday next. It will be a tough game and we will respect them but we go there with confidence.

I have played at Hillsborough numerous times and I was there as a fan in 1973 when Sunderland beat Arsenal. Sunderland went on to win the FA Cup that year.

It will be a big day for Karl and his family as I know his father was at Hillsborough the day those 96 Liverpool fans lost their lives. People say you always remember where you were that day and I was in the Players' Lounge at Luton as I was injured. I just could not believe what I was seeing on the TV.

The FA Cup takes a back seat now, though, and we get back to the bread and butter of the league. But Sunday showed the beauty of the FA Cup and why, for me, it is the best competition in the world.

Dons coaches are busy bees

BY KEVIN AFFLECK
kevin.affleck@lsnmedia.co.uk

MICK HARFORD was at Roots Hall last night to run the rule over Brentford ahead of the Dons League Two fixture at Griffin Park on Saturday.

The assistant coach was on a scouting mission for manager Karl Robinson ahead of the clash which pitches fifth against third this weekend, although whether Uwe Rosler fielded a full-strength team in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy match remains unclear.

Robinson also dispatched one of his team to Bradford on Friday night as the Bees drew 1-1 with the Bantams in the FA Cup.

The manager will clearly want to make plans for Brentford's playmaker Harry Forrester. The 21-year-old is one of five former Watford players in Rosler's squad and he pulls the strings for the Bees.

"He's a good player," said Harford. "He is very intelligent and plays very well between the lines. We'll have to look after him."

Forrester was highly-rated as a teenager, representing England at youth level and travelling with the Watford squad for a Premier League match at Old Trafford. But he lost his way after a move to Aston Villa and is enjoying a rebirth at Griffin Park.

But the Dons will make the trip with nothing to fear.

They have won five of their last seven league games and hit Colchester for five in their last outing.

FIXTURES

SAT	BRENTFORD (A)
DEC 15	HARTLEPOOL (H)
DEC 22	DONCASTER(A)
DEC 26	WALSALL (H)
DEC 29	COVENTRY (H)

LEAGUE ONE TABLE

		Home					Away						
Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
Tranmere Rovers	20	5	3	2	18	8	6	3	1	18	8	20	39
Doncaster	20	5	1	4	12	10	7	2	1	17	6	13	39
MK Dons	20	7	2	1	16	5	3	4	3	12	9	14	36
Sheffield United	20	5	5	0	18	10	4	4	2	8	7	9	36
Brentford	20	7	2	1	18	9	2	6	2	10	10	9	35
Notts County	20	4	2	4	14	12	5	5	0	18	8	12	34
Stevenage	20	3	5	2	14	17	6	2	2	13	10	0	34
Swindon Town	20	4	3	3	15	7	5	2	3	14	10	12	32
Crawley Town	20	5	2	3	17	15	4	2	4	10	13	-1	31
Bournemouth	20	4	5	1	18	11	3	3	4	16	21	2	29
Preston NE	20	3	5	2	15	8	4	2	4	16	16	7	28
Yeovil Town	20	4	1	5	12	14	5	0	5	18	17	-1	28
Leyton Orient	20	5	0	5	10	9	4	1	5	12	14	-1	28
Crewe Alexandra	20	5	2	3	12	10	2	4	4	12	17	-3	27
Coventry City	20	2	4	4	13	14	4	2	4	15	13	1	24
Oldham Athletic	20	3	3	4	11	10	3	2	5	9	14	-4	23
Colchester United	20	4	3	3	14	12	2	2	6	9	19	-8	23
Carlisle United	20	2	2	6	13	25	4	3	3	13	13	-12	23
Walsall	20	2	3	5	12	19	3	4	3	10	11	-8	22
Portsmouth	20	3	1	6	12	13	2	3	5	13	18	-6	19
Bury	20	2	4	4	10	14	2	3	5	13	19	-10	19
Shrewsbury	20	4	3	3	13	11	0	3	7	8	16	-6	18
Scunthorpe	20	1	3	6	10	21	3	2	5	10	16	-17	17
Hartlepool United	20	1	3	6	8	17	0	3	7	7	20	-22	9

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SWIMMING

COURTNEY Dos Santos was the toast of the City of Milton Keynes Swim Club at the weekend after winning two medals in the ASA South East Regional Winter Championships at the Aldershot Garrison Leisure Centre.

The 17-year-old Denbigh School student, above, won a silver in the 100m individual medley and bronze in the 200m individual medley.

Bethany Barby, Emily Jones, Emma Joyce, Christian Revell and Lauren Revell were also part of the team.

ATHLETICS

THE Marshall Milton Keynes Athletic Club finished second in the third Chiltern League match at the weekend.

But Windsor won the event in Slough and have now increased the gap between themselves in second and MK in third, although both clubs closed the gap on league leaders Bedford.

Owen Seamark was the star performer, winning the Male Under-13 race (M13), coming home two places ahead of club mate Alfie Yabsley while the Senior and Veteran Women's Teams won their events.

There were second places for Gemma Childs (F20), Ian Van Lokven (M50), Kim Lowden (F35) and Diane Baldwin (F45).

There were also runner-up spots for the Under-15 Boys and U15 Girls with third spots for the Senior Men and U20 Women.

In warmer climes at the Lanzarote Half Marathon, Neil Jones was 40th, Richard Inchley 133rd and Julie Dalzell 22nd in their respective categories.

MARATHON

RACE Director Andrew Hully and his team are working on plans to ensure the Milton Keynes Marathon is able to sustain any inclement weather next year.

Last year's event, which attracted more than 5,000 entries and raised more than £1.2 million for charity, was hit by torrential Bank Holiday rain which caused parts of the course to be flooded. Organisers have decided the area which flooded and caused a detour will be completely avoided while 80 per cent of stadiummk will be open and a large covered area made available for competitors to drop off and retrieve their baggage.

More than 900 spaces of on-site parking will be available while foil blankets will be provided.

GYMNASTICS

LEO Zervos produced a five-star performance for Milton Keynes in an invitational competition held in memory of their coach Tom Wilson on Sunday.

Zervos won five gold and two silver in a competition at the Kingston Centre featuring 132 boys representing more than 10 clubs from around the country – and even one from Austria.

Loraine Wilson, Tom's wife, was present to hand out the medals to Lewis Dean (two bronze, two silver and one gold), Bradley Smith (three bronze), Edward Dean (two bronze and two silver) and Dylan Zastron (three silver and two gold).

Matthew Wilson, Gregory Beckley and Jacob Nicols-Cook also competed well while Andrew Beckley finished fourth on floor and fifth on pommel.

ICE HOCKEY

Lightning up for trilogy of games

BY BENNY SINGARAJAN
sport@lsnmedia.co.uk

THE coach of MK Lightning is confident of his team's chances against Slough Jets this afternoon as they begin a run of three matches in five days.

Nick Poole feels the team is playing its best hockey of the year ahead of the visit to Slough in a clash that pits fourth against fifth.

The last time the two teams met the side from Milton Keynes failed to score and the Slough Jets won 2-0. But Lightning go into the match in peak form. They have won four of their last five matches and scored 14 goals in wins over Telford and Swindon at the weekend.

"Slough is a tough place to go, but the team is full of confidence," Poole said. "We are in good form and we're playing the best hockey we've played."

The team are without any major injuries ahead of the clash with Slough, but the coach said he is not "100 per cent sure" about his net minders.

The coach has the dilemma to choose between Stephen Hall, 31, who played the last game in which he conceded two goals, and the young 24-year-old Alex Mettam.

"We are comfortable with both our net-minders but I will speak to both of them in the training and will then decide," Poole said.

Lightning also have two games this weekend; they face Guildford Flames at home on Saturday in the EPL League Cup and travel to Manchester the next day to play Manchester Phoenix.

"The team is up for it and there is no pressure," Poole said.

He said his team would adopt a more direct and physical approach towards Guildford in order to progress to the next round of the cup.

Successive victories in the league, however, could leave Lightning in second place by Sunday night.

- Slough v Lightning, today, 8pm
- Lightning v Guildford, Saturday, 8pm
- Manchester v Lightning, Sunday, 5.30pm

HIGH FIVE: Lightning players celebrate one of their nine unanswered goals against Telford. Picture: Jez Tibbetts

HOCKEY ROUND-UP

Five-star MK wipe out Wycombe

MILTON KEYNES second XI claimed third place outright in Division One of the Middx, Berks, Bucks & Oxon League after a 5-3 win over Wycombe thirds on Saturday.

Bicester's loss at Marlow seconds means MK have a three-point advantage in third, having started the day ahead only goal difference.

But MK were made to work harder for the three points than they would have expected against a Wycombe side languishing at the wrong end of the table.

A rare reverse stick goal from Dave Breuilly, a strike from Jack Luther and another from Breuilly put the home side in complete control at 3-1 at the break.

Goals from Paul Hutchinson and an own goal as a result of a powerful strike from Joleyon Vernon put them out of sight and it looked a question of how many they would get.

But Wycombe scored two unanswered goals late on to make the final result closer than it ought to have been.

The fifth XI only had a Edd Soul go to show for their efforts from a 4-1 defeat at the hands of Wycombe seventh XI.

There was better news for the fourths, though. They won 6-0 at home to Banbury third XI.

The Ladies failed to hold onto the lead away at Witney and lost 2-1 in the mid-table battle in the South Clubs' Women's Hockey league Division 3A.

Sophie Reynolds fired MK in front from a penalty corner and the play of Alice Vigor and Lindsay Kettleborough provided MK with several other opportunities.

Their failure to take them proved costly when Witney responded by working the ball up the pitch and won a penalty corner.

A well-placed straight strike from the Witney player pulled them back to level . They then won it following a goal-mouth melee.

The Ladies third XI had an afternoon to forget, losing 10-0 at the hands of league leaders Buckingham. They at least managed to stop the rot in the second period, conceding only three times. Player of the match went to Fran Shepherd.

RUGBY UNION

'Support the stadium bid'

THE draw for the 2015 Rugby Union World Cup was made on Monday – and a top rugby executive has challenged the Milton Keynes public to prove how much it wants to see tournament games at the stadium when it stages an Aviva Premiership match later this month.

_stadium_mk was announced on the 17-strong long list of potential venues last month and those will be whittled down to 12 early next year.

Northampton chief executive Allan Robson feels a capacity crowd on December 30 for the game with Saracens will be required to convince tournament organisers they should choose Milton Keynes instead of the likes of Derby, Southampton, Brighton and Coventry.

"The Rugby World Cup is the world's third biggest and most prestigious sporting event and the tournament organisers will only host matches in cities where they know that there is an appetite for top level rugby," Robson said.

"A full _stadium_mk will help tilt the balance in Milton Keynes's favour. I'm sure that no one in Milton Keynes wants to be regretting not showing their support."

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Lightning ready to strike ... three times in five hectic days
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‘You would pay to watch Rasulo’

BY KEVIN AFFLECK
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THE Dons’ director of youth believes Giorgio Rasulo will be develop into the type of player “fans would pay to watch” and insists the club will do all they can to ensure the immediate future of the England youth international will be at the League One club.

The 15-year-old enhanced his growing reputation with a late winner for England Under-16s in their Victory Shield triumph over Scotland last week.

Dons manager Karl Robinson spearheaded the club’s contingent in the stands at Burton Albion on Thursday and knows he has a real prospect on his hands.

He handed Rasulo his first-team debut in the FA Cup replay win against Cambridge last month and has regularly invited the Banbury schoolboy to train with the first team.

He will join the club’s academy this summer and, providing he continues to progress, he will be offered a professional contract when he turns 17.

But the club are aware more than half a dozen clubs are monitoring the attacking midfielder – and he will only have put himself in the shop window by scoring the winner in front of the Sky cameras and a crowd which included Michael Owen.

“The top clubs already know all about him.,” said Mike Dove, the Dons youth chief. “We have six to eight scouts watching him at most games.

“We play games at the stadium so we expose them – we are not here to hide them.”

Arsenal will get a first-hand look at Rasulo tonight when the club’s two Under-16 sides meet at stadiummk in the Jim and Gwen Mann Academy Challenge Match at 7pm.

Dove reports Rasulo is a “very respectful, humble and polite boy with a very good family around him”.

He is in regular dialogue with the player’s Italian father and English mother and believes Rasulo is best advised to follow the career path of Sam Baldock.

Baldock spent six years at the Dons and learned his trade before earning his move to West Ham last year.

“He [Rasulo] knows he can get his opportunity here,” Dove said. “He can be like Sam Baldock and forge a career here. He’s got plenty of time to play in the Premier League. People think you get to a Premier League club and fly through but you don’t.

“Sam was an out and out goal scorer but George is very good in and around the box and good at dropping deep.”

BIG FUTURE: Giorgio Rasulo was handed his MK Dons debut against Cambridge in the FA Cup first round replay last month. Picture: Andy Handley

Dove feels Rasulo “complements” the club’s other youth England internationals Brendan Galloway and Dele Alli very well.

“It’s really great for the club and great for Milton Keynes we have players like this coming through.”

Mick Harford, the assistant coach, described Rasulo as “technically very good” and it will surely not be long before they are discussing offering him a professional contract.

“We’ll do what we can with our resources,” Dove said. “He knows he is at a very good club to progress and I think he’s the type of player you’d pay to watch.”

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